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COURTESY OF JOHNS HOPKINS PHOTOGRAPHY FORUM

Members of the Hopkins community gathered in freezing weather to express solidarity with those stranded by Trump's executive order.

## Hopkins rallies against Trump's travel ban

By KAREN SHENG  
Staff Writer

After President Donald Trump signed an executive order banning travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries, universities, including Hopkins, have condemned the order.

Hopkins, along with sixteen other universities, filed an amicus brief on Monday in a Brooklyn federal court out of concern for the ban's effect on their students and the international academic community.

To protest the ban and show solidarity with those affected, members of the Hopkins community gathered on the Beach and the Medical Campus.

The demonstration was one of several nationwide protests under the name "Academics United," which took place simultaneously on Friday.

Junior Darius Mostaghimi, an event organizer, explained the ban's far-reaching impact on college campuses. He stressed that those affected by the ban could be

friends, fellow researchers, teachers, or family.

"It's called Academics United because we are working with other universities around the country to raise awareness and to not let this issue die down from the public discourse," he said.

Another one of the organizers, Shiva Razavi, a graduate student, added that the purpose was to also encourage productive, meaningful discussion within the Hopkins community about the ban's consequences.

"It's beyond awareness; We want to have a fruitful conversation about it. We have speakers who are going to look at this immigration ban from different angles, from how it's affecting the refugees, how it's affecting doing research with

other countries," she said.

Graduate student Ding Xuan Ng, who helped to organize the event, elaborated on how the ban affected researchers who are stranded abroad.

"I know a few graduate students on campus who have been affected in that they're stuck in their countries after going back for what they thought was just a break, and it's a disruption that not only affects their work, but their funding might be suspended," he said.

A written statement from University Provost Sunil Kumar, who was unable to attend the event, echoed Ng. The statement was read aloud by vice provost for research Denis Wirtz, a Belgian immigrant.

"President Trump's  
SEE RALLY, PAGE A4

## DNC chair meets with select student leaders

By ROLLIN HU  
News & Features Editor

With the Republican Party controlling both houses of Congress and the presidency, the Democratic Party is evaluating the next steps they should take in response to the Trump administration.

Last Friday, Feb. 10, the interim Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chairwoman Donna Brazile spoke with a group of progressive student group leaders about the Party's future.

Roughly 20 students participated in the discussion, representing groups like Voice for Choice, Students for Environmental Action (SEA) and Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), among others.

The Hopkins College Democrats invited all the groups and those who responded had the opportunity to attend. They organized this event with one week's notice after being told that members of the DNC would be coming to Baltimore as part of a nationwide "listening tour."

Students were given the opportunity to question and challenge the DNC's actions this past

election cycle. This discussion was closed to the public and the press per the DNC's request.

President of Hopkins College Democrats Emma Cook said Brazile emphasized that now was the time for people to rally behind the party and not necessarily the time for the party to reach out to its base.

"She talked a lot about winning young people back," Cook said. "She sees it as young people need to participate and

"There is definitely still that wall between young people and college leaders and the Democratic Party."

— EMMA COOK,  
PRESIDENT OF  
COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

that it's not necessarily the Democratic Party's job to please, in order to have young people get involved."

Freshman Divya Baron, who worked on Hillary Clinton's campaign as a fund-

raising intern, felt that Brazile's message resonated with her.

"I felt like people were rehashing the same thing over and over again — about how so many people feel disenfranchised by the party and what the party was going to do to fix that," Baron said. "The answer that Chairwoman Brazile gave was that there should be a seat at the table for you and if there isn't, you have to

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## When women joined the student body

Finding a place at Hopkins in 1970



COURTESY OF MINDY FARBER

At first, male and female students didn't mingle, but that soon changed.

By SARAH Y. KIM  
Staff Writer

In 1969, the University began its transition from an all-male to a co-educational school. Women started attending Hopkins as undergraduates in 1970. That September, 90 female students enrolled, including 21 freshmen women who joined the Class of 1974.

Among this first group of women was freshman Mindy Farber, who later went on to become valedictorian of the Class of 1974 and earned a B.A. in History. After graduating, she became an employment and labor law attorney.

The founder of the University's first Women's Center, Farber pushed for developments such as establishing on-campus medical facilities for women, making the Rec Center more gender in-

clusive and trying to get more female professors and speakers on campus.

Farber explained why the University decided to enroll women.

"Other schools that Hopkins wanted to be competitive with were admitting women, and the thought was that women would be flocking into the social science and humanities majors, which would give Hopkins a more full encompassing reputation, not just a pre-med reputation," she said. "It didn't work out that way. Most women who were admitted went into the same majors as men did."

The facilities at Hopkins were not ready for female students at the time, and the dormitories for undergraduate women were still undergoing renovation.

"The dorms still had urinals," she said. "The

SEE CO-ED PAGE A4

## Is the student insurance plan at Hopkins worth it?

By MORGAN OME  
Layout Editor

For Hopkins undergraduate and graduate students, the coverage and cost of the school-sponsored health insurance program has caused confusion and dissatisfaction.

All full-time students are required to have health insurance and are automatically enrolled in the Hopkins program provided by Consolidated Health Plans (CHP) each year. However, students can waive enrollment by demonstrating that they have a comparable provider.

According to Laura J. Douglas, the University's

senior benefits analyst, approximately 44 percent of full-time undergraduate and graduate students in KSAS and WSE are enrolled in the school insurance program.

"The university requires students and employees to have health insurance to ensure they have access to health care and are protected against catastrophic events," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

### Details of the CHP Plan

Drew DiGiorgio, the president and CEO of CHP, explained how the University's health insurance differs from the over 200 schools in

CHP's network.

"JHU's plan is very comprehensive. Under [the Affordable Care Act] student health plans must meet a standard of coverage," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "JHU's plan meets those requirements and does so with very low deductibles and copays for students."

CHP is a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) which means that it combines in-network coverage, including physicians and hospitals that participate in the CHP's specific health care plan, with out-of-network coverage.

CHP's plan includes a deductible, co-insurance payment and out-of-pocket maximum. The deduct-

ible, or the amount an individual must pay before insurance begins to pay for covered services, is \$250. Co-insurance payments, or the amount an individual pays for a covered service, are typically 20 percent of the billed amount. The out-of-pocket maximum, or the maximum annual sum that an individual can pay, is \$5250.

The plan covers a range of health services including birth control, immunization, vaccinations, outpatient surgery, diagnostic tests, imaging tests and mental health and substance abuse care. Some services such as cosmetic surgery, dental care and routine eye care are

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For a quick off-campus trip, check out Lexington Market for good, affordable food. **YOUR WEEKEND, PAGE B2**



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## Off-campus housing search frustrates students



CINDY JIANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Nine East 33rd is one of many off-campus housing options in Charles Village available to upperclassmen.

By AMY HAN  
Senior Staff Writer

The University has a two-year on-campus residency requirement for students, and while there are some University housing options available to upperclassmen, the majority of undergraduates move off campus following their sophomore year.

Students execute the housing search at their own pace, some choosing to begin at the start of sophomore year, while others wait until later in the spring semester.

Sophomore Sophia Szu filled out an application for the new apartment complex Nine East 33rd early in the school year and signed her lease before the start of the spring semester.

"I started searching before Thanksgiving break, but I already knew I wanted Nine East," Szu said. "I just went straight for the application with my three housemates and we heard back from them a little later. I signed my contract during winter break, and I was all set."

Others, including sophomore Beatrice Shim, sought the assistance of upperclassmen to make living arrangements for the following year.

"I got most of my information and help from upperclassmen," Shim wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I'm thinking about moving into a graduating senior's apartment next year. Other than finding a place that suited all my roommate's interests, I didn't run into any issues because we had good connections."

While some students have little trouble finding housing, the process has presented unprecedented challenges for others. In order to secure housing off-campus, students not only have to factor in safety, prices and closeness to the Homewood Campus but must also carry out unfamiliar tasks such as signing a lease and making deposits to their landlord.

Sophomore Alisha Vavilakolanu cited her concerns about financial aid after moving off campus.

"I'm lucky that I found a place that fell within my budget, but I know that isn't the case for many students," Vavilakolanu said. "On top of that, the University has provided almost no assistance to students as far as finding and leasing a new apartment goes. Most of the information I got was from word of mouth."

Sophomore Jaycee Yao

added that international students especially have a hard time finding guarantors.

"We were a little perplexed at first as to who could be our guarantors. The problem is especially burdensome for international students whose parents don't work here in the U.S.," Yao wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I think finding a guarantor to sign my lease is the greatest obstacle that I have encountered. Although my mother does have a SSN, she doesn't have a job, and so she was not qualified for being my guarantor."

According to Off-Campus Housing Coordinator Hana Hasan, the University's Off-Campus Housing Office supports students as they transition into and throughout their time living off-campus. The office's website and apartment database provides a range of information about the different apartment options around campus, from maps to price comparisons, and includes tips for understanding leases, finding roommates and resolving conflicts with landlords.

"There will always be students that figure out this process on their own with the information we provide online. However, many students will come to our office and/or attend the different events that we host with various questions," Hasan wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "Our information session is a great event where we talk through the steps for securing housing, and students are able to ask a lot of questions and hear directly from other students that have gone through the process."

The office hosts housing fairs for students to receive information from, and communicate directly with, multiple property managers from the area every year. On Wednesday, the Office held their second meet-and-greet of the school year.

According to sophomore Oscar Castillo, the event was an opportunity for students still looking for housing to understand their options.

"The booths were very helpful as they told us a lot of information. All the handouts they gave us were really useful because they keep everything very organized. I

didn't know most of these places coming in," said Castillo.

Sophomore Brenda Zhang noted that while the fair was slightly overwhelming, she appreciated the Off-Campus Housing Office's efforts.

"We didn't actually know where we were going to live and didn't know what booths to look at, so it was kind of confusing," she said. "I do think that the University is doing a good job though, especially since most people don't even bother going to these events. If you care, the University is definitely providing enough."

Junior Belu Wu, who attended a similar event last year, said that going to the fair had helped answer all her questions. However, Wu believes more frequent emails from the Office about leasing opportunities and deadlines would be a great addition.

"The [Office] even handed out flash drives with the documents and maps that they had shown during the presentation so that we could look at them on our own. I thought that was really great," Wu said. "I think it would be helpful if the Off-Campus Housing Office sent out email reminders for students to start looking for housing earlier in the year, because I personally had no idea that leasing periods started so early."

Wu had applied to her first choice, Nine East 33rd, in the winter and was put on a waitlist because she had not known about the early application process and the popularity of the building.

Nine East 33rd, a new apartment complex close to the Homewood Campus, has quickly become the one of the most sought after buildings for students living off campus. This year, applications were made available at the beginning of the fall semester and the available spots were quickly filled.

Sophomore Alex Rodriguez is having a difficult time finding alternatives to Nine East 33rd due to the late notice that he would not receive housing. Rodriguez says he and his friends applied to live in the building early in December but did not hear back from them for over

a month, and the decision was continuously delayed.

Eventually, they were told that the building was already close to being filled and that their four-person housing group would have to be split up.

"They told us that they were at 97% capacity for 4-bedroom suites and that we would likely have to split up our housing group. We were displeased to hear this news, since we could have looked at other housing options if Nine East informed us much earlier," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "We were put into a tight spot to look for housing with much fewer choices than there were in the fall semester."

He also suggests that the Off-Campus Housing Office send out reminders to students to start the housing search earlier in the year.

"Being informed about housing is very important, so I feel the university did a good job with the fairs," he wrote. "Other than that, there wasn't a significant amount of communication between the Off Campus Housing office and the students. I would recommend for the university to encourage students to start the housing search early in the fall semester and not to apply too late."

Gina Kim, a transfer student who had also hoped to be able to find housing at Nine East 33rd, was surprised by how early students had to begin their housing searches in order to secure their first choice.

"I started really looking for off-campus housing when I came back from winter break," Kim wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I initially looked for housing with two other people, and we first went to Nine East, but the wait list there was already long — people had started signing up in October, which was only a month and a half since I had started here at Hopkins as a transfer student."

While many others have been facing issues finding alternatives to Nine East 33rd, Hasan emphasizes that there are still many options available.

"Being the newest building in the area, we are not surprised that Nine East is one of the more popular buildings," Hasan said. "However, there are approximately 20 commercial apartment buildings within walking distance to the Homewood campus, so students should not worry about finding suitable housing for their junior year."

She encourages students to reach out to the office and attend more events in the future.

"Even after our students move off campus, we want to ensure they feel connected to the Homewood community and have the support and resources to ensure a positive and successful experience," Hasan said. "We plan to continue with our major events such as the Meet & Greet and Off-Campus Housing Fair as well as plan new and exciting events throughout the school year to keep the students informed and excited about this next step in their undergraduate experience here at Hopkins."

## After impeachment, SGA replaces senator

By SAM FOSSUM  
News & Features Editor  
SARAH Y. KIM  
Staff Writer

Following Tiffany Onyejiaka's impeachment for attendance infractions last November, new senior class senator Jeremy Fraenkel was officially sworn in at the end of the Student Government Association's (SGA) meeting on Tuesday.

The SGA made no official announcement regarding Onyejiaka's impeachment, but emailed the senior class in January stating that it would accept SGA senator applications.

The email did not provide details on why a vacancy existed in the SGA.

Executive President Charlie Green explained that if a senator has four or more unexcused absences, then the constitution states that the senator must be removed from the senate. The judiciary committee ultimately ruled that Onyejiaka had violated the constitution.

"The judiciary examined Tiffany's absences very closely and disregarded any that seemed as though they had a chance of not being valid," Green wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I met with Sam Sands who is chair of the judicial branch of the SGA to make sure we were correctly following the process."

The SGA's general body was informed about the impeachment during a closed session last semester.

Onyejiaka was under consideration for impeachment along with two other senators. Green explained why only Onyejiaka was impeached.

"She was ultimately the only senator impeached because the other senators did not meet the four unexcused absences that result in automatic removal, and therefore the senate voted on their outcomes," she wrote.

Green explained that the impeachment was not publicized for two reasons.

"1. It was right before break, and if we advertised the senate vacancy we could not act on it until after break and 2. Impeachment trials are dealt with during closed meetings so that we can keep details private," she wrote.

In response to a question about whether the SGA has a responsibility to notify the student body when a non-elected official takes office or when a senator is removed, she defended the SGA's actions.

"[S]tudents should know who is on the senate. That is why SGA meetings are open and transparent so that students can come and meet their representatives, and Syed [Hossain] will let the senior class know that Jeremy is now on SGA," she wrote.

Two bills were also debated and passed during Tuesday's meeting.

The first bill, titled the Commemoration Ball Funding Bill, was proposed by Senior Senator Ope Olukorede. It was designed to alleviate the Commemoration Ball's \$14,000 price-tag by spreading the costs amongst co-sponsoring groups.

Olukorede's bill proposed that as co-sponsors, the Office of Student Life

and Involvement and the Development and Alumni Relations Team provide the majority of the logistical and financial support for the Ball.

"This year, we've found new ways to make it more reasonable, the cost we're spending on this event," Olukorede said.

The second bill debated by the SGA was the Gender Inclusivity Resolution submitted by Anthony Boutros, president of the freshman class council.

A key aspect of the bill was making facilities on Hopkins campuses more gender inclusive and more accommodating for trans students. With the encouragement of Demere Woolway, Director of LGBTQ Life, it was proposed that the Homewood Campus Master Plan have at least one accessible and gender inclusive single occupancy restroom in all new and renovated buildings.

"There are still many buildings on this campus and across other Hopkins campuses that don't have at least one restroom per building that is gender inclusive," Boutros said. "The single occupancy bathrooms are also much more acceptable to students with physical disabilities."

Another important aspect of the resolution was making applications and paperwork released by Hopkins organizations more gender inclusive. It proposes giving more gender options to choose from beside male and female, as well as allowing students to provide their preferred names and gender pronouns.

Junior Simon Barnett was also invited to make a presentation on entrepreneurship and internships at Hopkins. Executive Vice President and junior Anna Du explained the relevance of the subject to the SGA.

"One of SGA's biggest missions this past year has been entrepreneurship and innovation at Hopkins," Du said. "And it started out by students coming to the members of the SGA with complaints and concerns about the lack of resources and funding for building an entrepreneurial and innovative community at Hopkins."

She discussed the establishment of the Student Innovation Committee, designed to help strengthen such a community.

Barnett then presented a program he has been trying to bring to Hopkins: 3 Day Startup (3DS), a non-profit organization based in Austin, Texas, that partners with undergraduate institutions to run three-day entrepreneurial boot camps.

"Over the course of 72 hours, students will form teams to create minimally viable products, which are not really a lot of bells and whistles but just something you can present to investors," Barnett said.

He explained that its interdisciplinary nature sets it apart from similar organizations like HoPhacks.

The meeting concluded with a discussion on ethnic diversity in the University's different areas of study and staff and the swearing in of new executive treasurer Kenneth Von Blackmon.



# Students flock to new Charles Village eateries



COURTESY OF MANJARI SRIPARNA  
PekoPeko Ramen was opened by Hopkins alumnus David Forster.

By JACOB TOOK  
Staff Writer

New restaurants PekoPeko Ramen and R. House recently opened for business near the Homewood campus, quickly gaining popularity among students. R. House is a large warehouse-turned-dining-hall in Remington, while PekoPeko found its place in the Nine East 33rd building in Charles Village.

Hopkins alumnus David Forster, who grew up in Japan, said that he was particularly frustrated with the lack of diverse food options available while he was at Hopkins. After a few years in New York City working in ramen restaurants, he returned to open PekoPeko with the University's help.

"I was a student at Hopkins. Moving to Baltimore for undergrad, I was upset with the lack of quality food options in the area," Forster said. "I always knew that I wanted to come back to Baltimore for PekoPeko because, as a student, I felt that it would definitely work."

Forster spoke about the help he received from the University in opening his restaurant.

Don't not tip someone. It's also ludicrous that the front of house staff walk home with so much more money than the back of house staff, so it's a good way to make sure that everyone is receiving the appropriate wage."

Li compared the restaurant to Niwana, which is right up the street. Although she criticized PekoPeko for being pricey, she said that Niwana is more expensive and typically takes longer.

Despite Li's comments about the relative brevity of her visit, Forster rejected the label 'fast-casual' to describe PekoPeko. He believes it is inappropriate because they do not offer takeout and are not part of a chain. Forster mentioned that PekoPeko might take part in the University's upcoming Spring Fair and are looking to possibly host a temporary stall in R. House.

R. House has ten permanent chefs and one stall that is designed to host restaurants for a few weeks at a time. Stephanie Hsu, the marketing and events manager at R. House, said this allows chefs to experiment and test new ideas with a built-in audience.

Hsu also elaborated on the establishment's relationship with the University.

"As far as Ron Daniels is concerned, R. House is his idea, and we think so too," Hsu said. "There's been a lot of great synergy, being so close in Remington. We're working hand-in-hand on a lot of initiatives, and it's nice to see Hopkins students come out."

According to Hsu, the Blue Jay Shuttle, which

runs every 15 minutes, provides a direct route to the restaurant, and this is an example of one of these initiatives. She said that R. House provided a community atmosphere that was well-suited to a variety of people.

"That's the basic premise of R. House," Hsu said. "It's a place for a community to gather. We have all different kinds of seating so that we can accommodate all different kinds of parties, whether you're a Hopkins student coming in on the weekend or a mom who has a kid."

Freshman Teagan Kim wrote in an email to *The News-Letter* that she could see why R. House's atmosphere and variety appealed to students.

"We went on a Friday night," she wrote. "It was pretty hard to decide what to eat. Every stall had something I wanted to try."

Kim also wrote that, despite the large seating area, she struggled to find seating because crowds.

"Every table in there was filled," she wrote. "There was a good mix of cool 20-somethings chatting and drinking with their friends and families with kids eating dinner together."

Hsu said that she appreciated the relationship between R. House and PekoPeko, saying that she hoped to collaborate with them further in the future.

"It's another great success story of Baltimore locals who want to stay and do good things in the neighborhood," she said. "I think that the more of those concepts that we have together, it can only be for good."

# University turns down labor coalition meeting

By SAM FOSSUM  
News & Features Editor

The Student-Labor Action Coalition (SLAC) protested on Feb. 3 and demanded a meeting with University President Ronald J. Daniels to discuss policies that would benefit Hopkins contract workers. But since then, attempts to arrange a meeting between SLAC and the administration have broken down.

The University has refused to meet with coalition members who are not students, saying it does not want to intervene while the Local 7 union negotiates its contract with Bon Appétit. However, SLAC said they have offered to compromise.

The Coalition is a group of local trade unions and student organizations on campus. Since their last protest, American Association of University Professors (AAUP) joined the Coalition.

During their protest in Garland Hall, SLAC listed the three demands that they wished to discuss with Daniels.

The first is that contract workers will have guaranteed job security when the University changes contractors. The second demand is a guarantee that all contract workers receive a \$15 per hour minimum wage. Third, the Coalition demanded that contract workers receive program similar to the "Live Near Your Work Program," which provides grants and assistance for University employees to buy and find housing near

campus.

Senior Corey Payne, a co-chair of SDS and member of SLAC, explained the University and the Coalition had been in contact about setting up a potential meeting since the rally. But according to Payne, the University refused to meet while the Coalition had union representatives currently in contract negotiations.

Unite Here Local 7 is currently in talks with Bon Appétit after the previous contract expired on Jan. 31.

The Coalition said it responded by offering that Local 7 will temporarily leave the Coalition during negotiations. Payne said that the University insisted on only meeting with students and that they refused to meet with any trade unions or community organizations.

"What's pretty astounding about that assertion is that only one of our current partners is in contract negotiations," Payne said. "None of our other partners are, and most of our partners never have been, or never will be in contract negotiations with any Hopkins contractor. So, it's kind of baffling that they are using this as an excuse to not meet with workers unions."

The Coalition also agreed to meet with Daniel Ennis, vice president of finance and administration, instead of Daniels.

Kevin Shollenberger, vice provost for student affairs, stressed that they will not currently meet with any non-student members of the coalition.

"The University administration is happy to meet with our students now about these issues. But when there are ongoing negotiations between one of our contractors and its union, we must respect the integrity of their bargaining process," Shollenberger wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "We have to allow the parties to work through their contract without interference from us. However, once the contract negotiations are concluded, we are open to arranging a meeting with representatives from the broader SLAC coalition."

According to an email from 2010 between Jim McGill, former vice president for finance and administration, and Robert Day, a former graduate student at Hopkins, the University met with both students and contract workers at the time. A 2011 *News-Letter* article confirmed that the University met with a joint student-worker delegation.

In response, Shollenberger wrote that the University is "happy to look into this history."

In an email to *The News-Letter*, SLAC member Jessa Wais criticized the University's refusal to meet with non-students.

"[This] is unsurprising and falls in line with their track record of prioritizing Hopkins' profit margins and interests over the people of Baltimore," she wrote.

Payne stressed that the Coalition would prefer to meet with Daniels, but that they are willing to work with the University.

"We are willing to compromise and the University is not meeting us at all. It's frankly ridiculous," he said.

# Special Collections seeks to increase undergrad engagement

By JACOB TOOK  
Staff Writer

Tucked in the corner of Brody Learning Commons, the Sheridan Libraries Special Collections and Archives, houses works ranging from vintage student life photographs in the 1920s to an annotated *Hamlet* prompt book from 1676.

Heidi Herr, the outreach coordinator for Special Collections, spoke about their goal of making Special Collections more accessible and known to undergraduate students.

"[We] encourage students to come to our reading room and really explore and engage with all these rare materials," she said. "A lot of our students really don't have the opportunity to use special collections because it's either outside of their studies or they never have a rare books visit during their academic semester."

Herr emphasized that students, no matter their academic background, have something to gain by perusing the many works housed in the Special Collections.

"Often people who come into Hopkins think that special collections material may not necessarily be for them or they may need to have graduate-level skills in order to engage meaningfully with the books," she said. "But we really want students to feel empowered by using primary resources and see all the cool ways they can connect these centuries-old items to things they're

interested in."

Sophomore Sarah Liu, who works as a student monitor in the Special Collections reading room feels that not enough people on campus know about it.

"Students are generally unaware of special collections," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "Numerous friends who have seen me through the glass window have asked what the room is for. I think not enough students are aware of it because it's not really advertised in the school."

Herr acknowledged how Special Collections could be perceived as "static," but she stressed that by hosting events, they were generating student interest in the resources available.

"I have been tasked with creating a platform of various programs to engage undergraduates," Herr said. "We have been involving the students more into the planning of these events."

Herr further explained these events aim to make a lasting impression on students.

"It's just our way of trying to form some sort of connection with the undergraduate students here, to create a college memory for them and a tradition," she said. "It's just our way of

welcoming students back to the semester and wishing them well and making them feel encouraged."

Special Collections puts on several other events during the year, including the Halloween party at Peabody and an upcoming edible book festival, which will take place on Mar. 31.

Herr spoke about why she thinks these events attract students.

"I know that if I were a student, I would love to be able to attend this haunted, low-key affair at Peabody," she said. "By opening up the doors on Halloween, we figured this could be one stopping point on their night of Halloween fun... we also do the edible book festival."

One of these outreach events occurred last Monday when Special Collections hosted "Dirty Books and Longing Looks," a Valentine's Day event with several exhibits displaying manuscripts that chronicled the history of literature and sex. It included a section labelled "For Lusty Eyes Only," a collection of 18th-century pornography and a craft station featuring materials for Valentine's Day cards inspired by literature.

Freshman Bex Dansereau said that she enjoyed the event and was

interested in seeing what else Special Collections offered.

"I got super excited about the Special Collections," Dansereau said. "I've never been there before and now I want to go there again because they seem like have a lot of cool stuff. The lusty books were super interesting. The little I know of Latin helped me read some of the French in it, so I got to pick out factoids about my favorite Roman emperors because I'm a dork."

She was interested to see things like corset advertisements from the Victorian era, dress up dolls teaching women what to wear and guides for women explaining how they can catch a man. She also found the people she met at the event to be engaging and offered unique perspectives.

"Considering they're in departments that I never interact with because I'm super humanities, it was fun to talk to these people that I've never seen before," Dansereau said. "They offered some fun perspectives."

Herr spoke about how their promotion efforts have been effective.

"Students are increasingly using primary sources for their work and to learn more about areas of personal interest that may lie outside of their academic fields of study," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "This is especially apparent in the number of students who apply to either work in Special Collections or qualify for one of [our] research programs."

As to other strategies for helping to promote Special Collections, Liu suggested that professors incorporate the works into their lessons.

"I first used Special Collections in a freshman seminar about Milton's *Paradise Lost*. To be able to touch books from centuries past and see the transformation of a single work from edition to edition was an amazing experience," Liu wrote. "Professors should always let students know that there is such a resource to help with research on campus!"



COURTESY OF EDA INCEKARA  
Special Collections hosted a saucy Valentine's Day event on Monday.



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## What was it like to be in the first co-ed Hopkins class in 1970?



COURTESY OF MINDY FARBER

Mindy Farber, Class of '74, helped bring Jane Fonda and Gloria Steinem to her graduation.

## SEE CO-ED, FROM A1

women obviously didn't know what to do with them. They decorated them. It was funny. The mirrors were so high that you had to be such a tall girl to look into them. If you were combing your hair, you had to jump a little bit to get your full face in the mirror."

No sororities or organized sports were available to women. The Rec Center also separated men and women.

"They had to set up certain times for women to go swimming, men to go swimming," she said. "It was a stuffy time period. The only athletics they had for women was cheerleading. In my sophomore year, a co-ed soccer team formed. That was really the first foray into athletics that the women had."

Farber recalled that in class, men and women avoided interacting with one another.

"When women went to class, it didn't matter whether you were quiet, outgoing, beautiful, not so beautiful," she said. "As soon as a woman sat down in class, it was some weird phenomenon. The men wouldn't sit next to the women. So the men would sit in the back of the class, and the women sat next to women. It wasn't hostile. It was weird. It was awkward and strange."

There was one exception in her sophomore year. When attending a social psychology class with her roommate, she was surprised to see two men come and sit down beside them.

"It was me and my roommate and this guy and this other guy. It was so unusual that the guy who sat down next to my [roommate] actually became her boyfriend and then her husband," Farber said. "She's been married to him all these years."

She also stated that the small number of women meant there was little sense of close-knit community among them, and the University fell short of fostering that positive environment for them. In 2012, when the alumnae of the Class of 1974 gathered for a reunion, every woman got up and introduced herself to the others.

"It was a very galvanizing moment, to have that reunion," Farber said. "And it was interesting to see how many people responded to it. Everyone had this need, in a way."

Nevertheless, Farber described the social life outside of class as "incredible."

"It was a big deal [for women] to be around campus," she said. "Even though men didn't sit next to you in class, socially everyone had about 85 boyfriends at the same

time. It was very funny."

Gail Kelly, Class of 1974, now works in the United States Department of Health and Human Services. She was one of the first three African-American women to attend Hopkins as an undergraduate. Having gone to an all-girls school prior to Hopkins, she was excited to finally socialize with men who were not her brothers.

"Usually, in order for boys to mingle [with girls], they'd have to take the bus to Goucher," she said. "All of a sudden, you have women in class, women around. We were a novelty. I think the guys were most polite. Very courteous. I didn't feel intimidated."

Kelly felt that in class she experienced a smooth transition. However, she said that some of her female peers sometimes felt tension in these co-ed classrooms.

"Those classes where there was competition, maybe there were problems because we had some very dynamic women in our class who were incredibly accomplished," she said. "And it could be the competition that sometimes made them get into competitive situations, because of their talent. There's a little clash sometimes."

However, Senior Director of Alumni Benefits and Services Marguerite Jones, who transferred to Hopkins in 1972 and majored in the humanities, said that she heard from her peers that female students in the sciences were not recognized as equals by the men. She also said that the male-dominated staff and advisers were somewhat distant with female students.

"It was not a place where they would hold your hand," she said. "You were pretty much on your own to figure it all out. There was no coddling, whether you were male or female."

According to Kelly, however, the Hopkins staff was very supportive.

"The school had a commitment to you," Kelly said. "No matter what, if you were admitted, you will graduate. Whatever support you needed, it would be put in place. The school made a commitment, particularly to minority students. I did have a girlfriend who graduated a year later because she had a baby, but she was still part of the class, and she graduated. My scholarship was always maintained. I felt really comfortable."

Farber agreed that the majority of her professors, most of whom were male, were very understanding.

"There was one guy who made some really bad comments, and this other guy who'd say: 'Are you sure you want to take this class? It's very demanding,'" she said. "But

most of the professors adjusted very quickly and were very fair about it."

However, Farber went on to reflect upon what she described as an undercurrent of sexual exploitation by the professors.

"It had no name then," she said. "But there was a tremendous amount of pressure by male professors on the women students to get [sexually] involved, if you know what I mean. There was a lot of that. It was a dark secret."

At the time, it was something that students did not fully grasp and therefore kept quiet about.

"Nobody thought of [sexual exploitation] as a concept then," Farber said. "Nobody thought of it as a legal issue. It wasn't. Nobody thought of it. It was like a way of life. I can't imagine that would be going on now, but it sure went on then. It was rampant."

Farber recalled a time when shortly before a meeting with a professor whom she wanted as her senior thesis adviser, other female students gave her advice on how to dress.

"[They said,] 'Really dress modestly with him, not provocatively,'" she said. "I had a tendency to run around all the time in those days wearing really tight cut-off

shorts. 'Just dress very conservatively when you go to see him. You don't want him to notice you anyway.' This would go on, so I remember to this day what I was wearing. I remember wearing this cute dress, this white sweater. Very proper. I acted very professionally with him."

In her senior year, however, Farber found herself pressured by a male professor. She was not fully conscious of it at the time.

"There was a professor there who was illustrious, and he was there until he retired a few years ago. And I never said a word. When I look back, it was wrong, the things that he did," she said.

The professor, who was in his 30s then and taught what she described as a particularly challenging course in her junior year, did not try to get involved with her until her senior year.

"He waited until I was no longer in his class," she said. "It's interesting that there I was, a feminist. I'd organized the Women's Center and I was considered the 'feminist' on campus. I thought about it over the years. I could have ruined his career. But I never said a word."

She described how these encounters that female students had with male professors would come about.

"You'd run into [the

professor]. He'd say: 'Oh, how was your summer?' 'Summer was fine.' 'Oh you look so nice. You want to have dinner? I want to catch up with you.' You're so flattered, you know," she said. "You'd have dinner, and then after, then it really started. It was a weird thing. Because it was like, 'What do I do?' It was so weird, it didn't even occur to you to say something."

Farber also refrained from telling her family because she was afraid it might have prevented her from continuing her education at Hopkins.

Despite this, Farber felt that Hopkins was a very valuable academic and social experience for her, and

that many of her professors were both sympathetic and encouraging. She said that about 10 percent of her graduating class of women were in Phi Beta Kappa, a prestigious honors society.

Farber felt that the challenges the women at Hopkins had to overcome were what made them so successful.

"There were so many obstacles, and you really had to develop a thick skin in order to survive there," she said. "I think [the women] pushed themselves harder."

While sexual exploitation remained undressed, she and other female students were very vocal about other

issues.

"At our graduation, there was a woman's speech, and somebody spoke about the war in Vietnam," she said. "The '70s, for Hopkins, was a very politically-charged era. There was always something going on."

In light of this political climate, she was at the forefront of trying to get Alger Hiss, an accused Soviet spy, on campus, as well as actress and anti-Vietnam War activist Jane Fonda, feminists Gloria Steinem, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Anne Sexton and writer Anaïs Nin. Steven Muller, who was president of the University at the time, gave his consent, and she invited the speakers.

The visits — particularly those of Hiss and Fonda — did not sit well with alumni, who sent Muller a torrent of letters. Muller, however, was pleased.

"I got really nervous and upset," Farber said. "I thought he was going to yell at me. And he said, 'This is what you call alumni engagement. And any alumni engagement is good. You women have managed to shake this campus up.' It was very touching. He said, 'We'll never forget this. You managed to take social issues and bring them into the classroom.' He was very gracious."

Looking back, Farber felt that she and her peers had accomplished so much in four short years.

"At the time it seemed slow," she said. "But when I look back now, we got an awful lot done."

## Hopkins organizes against immigration ban

## RALLY, FROM A1

executive order has very real consequences for students, researchers and staff members across our University. Some have been forced to separate from their families, others have been prevented from fulfilling their obligations abroad, and many of our international patients fear they will not be able to receive the medical care that they need," Wirtz read. "The PhD student I advise cannot go home today to visit his family or present his work at an international conference without risking his studies. So how can we function best as a University in such circumstances?"

Susan Goering, the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Maryland, also spoke at the rally to offer a legal perspective on the executive order.

Goering also outlined the lawsuit that the ACLU has filed in response to the executive order that has been gaining national attention. She encouraged attendees to continue their activism.

"What you are doing today, the protesting, the marching, is all extremely important for two reasons: One, it helps us keep our spirits up, because we're all doing this together, and the second important reason is the little known fact that I think is true, that judges read the newspaper. So please keep doing what

you're doing," she said.

Speakers praised University President Ronald J. Daniels' statement on the executive order but also called on Hopkins to strengthen its stance as a sanctuary campus.

Hent de Vries, a philosophy professor and the director of the Humanities Center, emphasized this concern, going on to say more action may be needed in order to help those affected.

"[Daniels' and Kumar's] personal and collective statements have been strong and unambiguous," he said. "But they may need more than our moral support and approval. They also may need to strategically and tactically let us use the concept [of a sanctuary campus]."

Derek Schilling, a professor in the German and Romance Languages and Literatures (GRL) department and the president of the Hopkins chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), was another one of the speakers at the rally. Schilling pushed the University administration to enact more concrete measures to protect those affected.

"We now encourage [administrative leaders] to take the next step to devise a concrete, multi-faceted contingency plan that can ensure for the needs of those persons directly affected in our campus, in our partner institutions, such that each basic material and

administrative need for those to live and study and work with dignity be met," he said.

The students who participated found the event galvanizing and effective for showing solidarity with the community.

"I think it's important for students and the community in general to organize," junior Aurel Malapani said. "I noticed that here on campus, there's a lot of political apathy and a lack of political organization, and I think that this is a good opportunity as well to organize on campus and become more politically active and radicalize the student population a little bit."

However, junior John Hughes feels that the format of the rally could have been more effective.

"They had a lot of speakers there who were knowledgeable and passionate about the subject and really rallied people," he said. "But I do wish that it had been translated into some sort of action. I think that

there was a lot of potential that was maybe wasted by having everyone sort of standing in one spot and listening."

Overall, Mostaghimi felt that the rally was successful.

"There's further action that's being planned with [Students for a Democratic Society] and other groups," he said. "I think that we made a good statement and I think that's really what we planned for."

Event organizer Matthias Lalis, a graduate student in the Cognitive Science department, maintained that there is still more work to be done.

"Hopkins needs to take a stronger stance acting as a sanctuary for members of the community who are affected by these continuing attacks on their rights and on their humanity," he said. "That holds for the University's fairly toned down response to the immigration ban and their unwillingness to speak out strongly against it."



COURTESY OF ROLLIN HU

Students and faculty protested Trump's travel ban on the Beach.



NEWS & FEATURES

Interim DNC chair meets with students



TIM PIERCE / CC BY 2.0  
Donna Brazile met with left-leaning student group leaders last Friday.

DNC, FROM A1

create one for yourself... I very much believe that getting involved is the most important message."

A criticism of the Democratic Party this past election cycle was that there was a certain disconnect between the Party and the people. People often complain that members of the DNC preferred Hillary Clinton as the Democratic candidate over Senator Sanders. Cook explained how that disconnect was still evident when some students spoke with Brazile.

"There is definitely still that wall between young people and college leaders and the Democratic Party that needs fixing, and I definitely think you could feel that in the room," she said.

Senior Andy Ingersoll, vice president of the SEA, elaborated on this disconnect.

"They don't have a plan to unify the party, and they're hoping that it will either just become unified or that the problem will go away," he said. "The activists want the DNC to have a big shift towards them, and the DNC wants the activists to have a big shift towards them. And neither seems to be entirely willing to meet in the middle."

Ingersoll explained how Brazile was defensive against any criticism of the DNC.

"There were a number of times where people would push her on specific things related to the hacks, and she was very quick to categorize the DNC as a victim and not admit any fault," he said. "I think that rubbed people the wrong way."

Baron defended Brazile and the DNC, saying that people should recognize that the party has limitations on what it can achieve.

"The DNC doesn't really have any power. It does fundraising and encourages people to run and supports them as much as they can and it writes the party platform once every four years," she said. "It's not like it's going to be able to pass laws or bring in any grand reforms. It is an amalgamation of thoughts of all the different parts of the Democratic Party which is a very diverse group of people, and I don't think people realize this."

Student expectations of the Democratic Party were another point of discussion. Many students during the meeting explained how they wanted the party to follow the example of certain Democrats with whom they identify.

"A bunch of people in the room talked about how they liked [seeing] certain individual Democrats... at, for example, the Dakota Access Pipeline protests and at the airport protests," Cook said. "A lot of young people want

What does student health insurance cover?

INSURANCE, FROM A1

excluded from the plan.

The University's Student Health and Wellness Center (HelWell) offers certain services at a reduced cost. For example, a prescription for a 30-day supply of generic and preferred drugs is reduced to a flat copay fee of \$8.

Worth the cost?

The school insurance plan costs \$900 per semester, or \$1800 annually. Although insurance plans vary in terms of covered health services and benefits, the price of health insurance at Hopkins is less than the average cost at the University's peer institutions. The average annual cost of health insurance for undergraduates amongst the top 25 universities, as ranked by *US News & World Report*, is approximately \$2797.73, according to *The News-Letter's* calculations."

Sophomore Osiris Mancera was unhappy with the high cost of the school's insurance program and switched to a different health insurance provider after finishing her freshman year.

"I was here over the summer and I had gotten sick," she said. "[I made an] appointment to go to HelWell. They had to cancel my appointment and couldn't do certain times, and I was working full-time over the summer. So, I started thinking, what is my money really paying for if they can't help me?"

Mancera found a plan through Maryland Health Connection, the state's official health insurance marketplace. Although she is no longer enrolled in the school insurance plan, Mancera still goes to HelWell for vaccinations and check-ups. She pays out-of-pocket for the portion of these services that is not covered by her Maryland Health Connection plan. She acknowledged that the school's plan can be a reliable option for many students.

"I think it's a good plan if you can afford it and if it's convenient for you," she said. "But I don't think that based on how much [it] costs it provides adequate or sufficient support and resources. It doesn't cover certain things [like] going to the eye doctor or going to the dentist — it might give you partial [coverage] like 10 percent."

Some students, like junior Pranshu Bhardwaj, believe that even though the school insurance program may be expensive, it is worth the cost.

"[Insurance] does cost money," he said. "It's a preventative measure that I feel will save you a lot of money down the line. You never know when accidents are going to happen."

He also cited the convenience of enrolling in CHP as one of its positive attributes.

"Basically, the real benefit of CHP is the ease of it," Bhardwaj said. "I'm a college kid. I don't really want to think about bills and insurance already. It's just something I can tack onto my tuition."

Sophomore Cassidy Speller also expressed approval for the health insurance program.

"I think it's cool that the school offers a decent, if not pretty good, health insurance plan for students," she said.

Speller noted that many people assume that all University students

can afford to have their own insurance plans, yet that assumption doesn't hold true for all.

"I don't know how often people talk about their insurance plans, but I feel like there is a stigma [around] having a school insurance plan... if you don't have a great insurance plan, that's a socio-economic thing people can be judge-y about," she said.

DiGiorgio stated that costs for student health insurance are reliant on the economy.

"Medical Trend (depending on the source) is roughly 8 percent in the student market," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "That means that without altering benefits, on average, student insurance premiums would need to increase by 8 percent to keep up with medical inflation. The rate for students entirely dependent on the medical experience of the plan. Therefore that rate will vary widely from campus to campus. All schools go through a process of evaluating the cost of the plan and the

just like preventative care. I'm not really sure. It's just the insurance that I use here in Baltimore," he said.

Impact on graduate students

Teachers and Researchers United (TRU), a group of graduate students, is working to obtain better health insurance for graduate workers. Since graduate students are also considered full-time students, they are enrolled in the same CHP plan as undergraduate students.

In 2015, TRU released a Report on Healthcare and Call for Solidarity that cites many of the problems graduate students see with the University's current health insurance program and compares it to the insurance programs at other schools.

Valentina Dallona, a fourth year sociology Ph.D candidate and member of TRU, explained that many graduate students are unsatisfied with the school insurance program because of its costs.

"In general, these high co-pays and high deductibles are very problematic for graduate students because we do not really have a considerable income," she said. "We live on a stipend that is okay enough to have a modest kind of living.

Dallona stated that TRU aims to be a platform for graduate workers and to improve the health insurance available for graduate students.

"It feels so ridiculous that we are [connected to] one of the most famous medical campuses and we have a very indecent healthcare plan," she said.

The future of student health insurance

The Trump administration's promise to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has made some students worried about the effects such legislation would have on their health insurance.

Douglas stated that the University will still offer health insurance if the ACA is repealed.

"Students were provided with health insurance options before the ACA was enacted. That will not change should the ACA be repealed," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "We can't speak to what the future requirements may be but we will comply with any new regulations should the ACA be repealed and replaced."

DiGiorgio explained what a repeal of ACA would mean for CHP.

"In general, colleges and universities determine the level of benefits offered by the CHP plan," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "Schools must weigh the cost of health care, with the financial means of their student population. So technically, nothing from a benefits standpoint would need to change. However, a repeal of ACA most likely would remove the minimum requirement and allow schools to tailor benefits to meet student needs (both medical and financial)."

Bhardwaj expressed concern over how the future of health insurance may affect individuals seeking a career in medical fields.

"I think especially with the ACA going down in flames it's going to be interesting to see how that affects how many uninjured there are, because a lot of [their] costs go to the hospitals," he said. "As a [hopeful future doctor], I know that a lot of people are scared to see if this is going to tip the health care system one way or another. We'll see how it goes."

In addition to concerns about the future of the ACA, some students are worried about how immigration policies may affect health coverage. Undocumented students and individuals protected under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) will still have access to health insurance so long as they maintain their status as a student, according to DiGiorgio.

"To participate in the student plan, individuals must be students (or dependents of students)," he wrote. "This is not a CHP determination."

"What is my money really paying for if [HelWell] can't help me?"

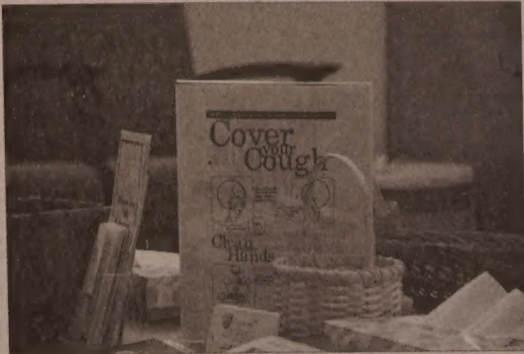
— OSIRIS MANCERA, SOPHOMORE

There's a lot of students who just avoid seeking medical care if they have issues because they cannot afford those kinds of expenses."

International students with F1 or J1 Visa status are required to purchase the school's insurance program and cannot waive enrollment, according to the Office of the Registrar's website. Dallona estimates that around two-thirds of graduate students are international students. Many international students come from countries in Europe where healthcare is provided at a national level.

"We have exactly the [same plan as undergraduates]," she said. "But in our case, because a lot of us are older or international students, we don't have a comparable plan and we can't rely on our parents. So a lot of us have to buy the university's provided plan."

Dallona recounted how she would fly back to Italy during her first year to receive health services. She also spoke about another graduate student who was unable to afford the cost of filling two cavities. Each filling would have cost her \$1600, or \$3200 in total. She decided to purchase a plane ticket back to France in the middle of the semester and get her cavities filled there because it was cheaper.



FILE PHOTO  
Students have questions about the University's health insurance plan.



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

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- You will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with a Residential Life Staff member in securing your future Student Group Housing community.
- While all suites must be completely filled, your group can be comprised of several suites of the same gender or suites of different genders.

### Important Dates

**Tuesday, February 21st**  
Housing Information Booth  
12noon - 2:00pm  
Fresh Food Cafe'

**Thursday, February 23rd**  
Student Group Housing  
Information Session @ 4:00pm  
in McCoy Multipurpose Room

**Thursday, February 23rd @ 5:00pm -**  
**Thursday, March 2nd @ 11:59pm**  
Student Group Housing Registration  
to be completed and submitted on-line.  
Visit: [www.jhu.edu/hds/together](http://www.jhu.edu/hds/together)  
**Deadline: Thur. March 2nd @ 11:59pm**

**Friday, March 3rd**  
Student Group Housing  
Timeslot Notification  
distributed via email by 5:00pm

**Tuesday, March 7th**  
Contract Signing for  
Student Group Housing  
Location: Wolman MPR & Theater  
Arrival time is based on Group's Timeslot.

Student Group Housing Information Session:  
Thursday, Feb. 23rd | 4:00pm  
McCoy Hall Multipurpose Room

live together. play together. learn together.



## VOICES

Hopkins is a diverse university, where an incredible mix of cultures, academic interests and personalities coexist and thrive...

# The problems with Trump's cabinet picks



Alicia Badea  
Political Compass

Several trends have emerged in the process of Trump's choosing of nominees and appointees for influential positions within his administration. His cabinet, for example, is slowly shaping up to be very white and very male (and very, very wealthy).

Yet, besides the obvious absence of diversity, two other glaring and unsettling trends continue to hang above the administrative picks like a neon sign. More than a few of Trump's picks have little to no experience in the field in which their position is situated, and several have histories of either promotion of regressive policies or opposition to the departments they are now expected to lead.

Rex Tillerson, former CEO of ExxonMobil, is now secretary of state. Betsy DeVos, besides having no experience in education, has pushed charter schools and their deregulation, which has led to a

severe decline in educational standards in Michigan. She is now secretary of education.

Still unconfirmed Scott Pruitt, the pick for EPA administrator, has attempted to strip down governmental environmental regulations and maintains both investments and close ties to the fossil fuel industry. He has sued the EPA numerous times and has now been chosen to lead it.

Previously unconfirmed was Andrew Puzder, who withdrew on Feb. 15, and has consistently opposed basic labor regulations. His company has faced class-action lawsuits over cheating workers out of their wages. He was poised to be confirmed as secretary of labor.

Perhaps the situation would be slightly less worrisome were it not accompanied with the frighteningly explicit, shamelessly prejudicial and unapologetically nationalistic worldviews held by several of these cabinet members.

Not only are some of them are virtually unqualified or supportive of regressive policies, but in the case of a few key figures, they are dangerous and discriminatory. At times, anti-democratic views have been legitimized.

Among the most notable examples is appointed Chief Strategist Stephen Bannon, former executive

chair of Breitbart News, which he himself termed "the platform for the alt-right." As much as certain members of the alt-right would like to paint it in more palatable colors, this movement's main rhetoric and attitudes are obsessively centered on white nationalism and frequently promote racism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia.

Despite whatever Bannon claimed the term meant to him at the time of that comment, his own views and actions both before and after his appointment continue to reinforce the idea that his involvement with the alt-right goes beyond mere "association."

Bannon was also the one to comment that the media should "keep its mouth shut," an anti-press sentiment which is all too often heard from the president himself.

What of former National Security Advisor Michael Flynn, who has regularly interacted with alt-righters on Twitter, disseminated fake news and tweeted "Fear of Muslims is RATIONAL" (caps originally included)?

And what about Jeff Sessions? If he was denied federal judgeship for his racist views in 1986, he certainly does not belong in the position of attorney general in 2017. Those views are only some of the harmful ones he may continue to uphold.

By surrounding himself with these people, Trump is establishing a positive feedback loop. The harmful and dangerous views of his cabinet will propel Trump's own inflammatory and impulsive rhetoric and actions, which in turn will further encourage the cabinet to continue enacting detrimental policies.

This cycle may emerge not only in reference to social issues but also for all points of the governmental spectrum: economic, environmental, educational, etc.

By placing these peo-

ple in a position of power, Trump allows them to wield enormous influence over himself and over governance — penning executive orders, dealing with international relations and steering military operations.

Yet for the majority of cabinet and other top administrative positions, senate confirmation is required. Granted, Bannon's and Flynn's roles were solely presidential appointments. But what of Tillerson? DeVos? Sessions? Or others — Mike Pompeo, who previously supported torture and wants to buddy with Russia, for CIA director? Tom Price, who is adamantly for repealing the ACA and has questionable investments in health care companies, for health secretary?

The litany of problems surrounding many of Trump's picks has been overwhelming. Yet, so far, only three Republican senators have defected from the party and each only once. The Democratic opposition has been relatively sustained, but without a few Republican defectors, each nominee will ultimately be confirmed.

Republican senators, at least some of them, must realize how ill-fitted these picks are. Yet they continue to vote along party lines, some undoubtedly for fear of being singled out by Tweeter-in-Chief. Several Democrats have also defected in certain votes, some from red states, possibly in fear of losing a re-election.

Yet now is not the time to play dicey political games. Now is the time for our senators to be outspoken, to vote "No" on the administrative picks who will do damage in the positions they've been nominated for.

It's a long shot as far as most Republicans go. But pressure your representatives. Call them. Support the ones who have been outspoken. Tell your senators to act with integrity.

# Why supporting local news is so important



Jacqui Neber  
In Review

When I first started my career as a newspaper reporter, it felt possible to ignore what was happening to journalism while still doing journalism," Kris-

ten Hare writes in a Feb. 13 Poynter article. "I don't think that's true anymore." Hare is a journalist with a history. She's reported from newsrooms in Minneapolis, Miami and Washington, D.C. among others, giving readers a first-hand look at what the challenges these news organizations are facing in this new era of journalism.

However, now she's moving onto a new project. Hare is currently launching a weekly newsletter dedicated to exploring the future of local news. She's calling it "Local Edition," (because she's awesome).

Poynter is rightfully concerned for the future of local news. News, and the media that disseminates it, appears to be increasingly under threat. The transition from print to digital continues to unfold, the pace of news reporting is quickening across the country and

the political climate poses serious challenges to local and national press.

Enter Hare, whose column will compliment Poynter's larger local news project, the Knight-Lenfest Newsroom Initiative, which will report on the efforts of local publications throughout America.

When we think of news, we think of the big guys — *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *Washington Post*. But it's just as important to recognize and foster the efforts of newspapers in small communities.

The reporters from these papers are on the

ground covering all the daily injustices that a national paper just doesn't have the manpower or scope to pick up. Often times, these journalists are the ones

who truly understand the implications an event has for a particular community.

They need to be protected. They need continued access to the right resources to get their pieces off the ground and onto the forefront of national stage. They need ways to continue telling the stories of their communities.

At *The News-Letter*, we've taken a similar approach to continued storytelling with our new email service. It's a newsletter from *The News-Letter*. The newsletter lets students, parents, faculty and alumni keep up with our biggest stories and entices them to get further involved in the paper.

Local news sources need resources, but they also need to keep their audiences involved and wanting more. That's been our challenge as we've moved through the years and refined our roles within the paper. Staying relevant, fast and accurate depends on our ability to condense information effectively. For the student who doesn't have time to read a 3,000 word article or the parent who just needs a quick update, our newsletter is succinct and punchy.

*The News-Letter* is a local newspaper fully committed to serving the needs of our community, which includes more than just undergraduates. The actions taken here at Hopkins affect staff, faculty, graduate students, members of the surrounding community and often the future of Baltimore. And while we don't have the Knight Foundation behind us, we can make just as concerted an effort to stay relevant.

Everyone has reason to worry about the future of the journalistic industry, even at a university where news is readily consumed and readily commented upon. It's our job to adapt our processes to reflect the changing state of consumption on campus and in webs that extend outside Hopkins.

It's impossible to ignore what is happening to journalism while still doing journalism. Our newsletter, and this column, is a team effort to



KARL-LUDWIG POGGEMANN/CC BY-SA 2.0

So far, many of Trump's cabinet picks have been confirmed by congress.

# Music to help get you in the loving mood this week



Juliana Veracka  
The Playlist

This playlist may not reach you before Feb. 14, but I couldn't resist getting into the spirit of the day regardless. While it may be a holiday that means various things to various people, no matter whom you're with (or not with), Valentine's Day can be as special as you want it to be.

Besides, you don't really need a special day or a special someone to enjoy some good love songs now, do you? Music is music so I hope you enjoy at least one of the songs on this week's list. I hope you had a very happy Valentine's Day!

**"Too Good" by Troye Sivan:** Here's a nice slow song to start off the list. It's one I like a lot because while it is slow, it's not

boring (yeah, I'm the kind of person who finds slow songs boring sometimes).

**"Shape of You" by Ed Sheeran:** I know you all must have heard Ed's newest hit by now, possibly many times, but it's just so good! I couldn't resist. If you somehow haven't heard this song yet, please give it a listen. I wouldn't call myself the biggest Ed Sheeran fan, but this one made me glad to have him back.

**"Empire" by Shakira:** This is not a new Shakira song but one I heard for the first time very recently. I like it because it's a love song with a soaring chorus that's also very catchy, you won't mind having it stuck in your head.

**"I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)" by Sleeping at Last:** Yes, this is a cover. But it's somehow so different from the original that you could arguably enjoy both versions equally and for different reasons. I love this version in particular because it's very sweet and very slow and almost melancholy but still very romantic.

**"Love Song" by Adele:** Okay, so this is another

cover... But it's Adele, so naturally it's a fantastic cover. Given that it is quite appropriately titled for my purposes, I simply could not leave this off the list. It's a very standard type of love song (ha); You kind of have to appreciate it. Plus, it's Adele.

**"Halo" by Beyoncé:** So classic. So good. One that I come back to every so often for the nostalgia of it. Honestly though, Beyoncé's got plenty of Valentine's Day worthy songs to choose from. (Side note: She really

should've won a Grammy for Best Album, no question. I mean, even Adele said so! It was *Lemonade*, for crying out loud.)

**"Cliffs Edge" by Hayley Kiyoko:** This is a really light, breezy

song. It's relaxing and perfect for snuggling too, in my opinion. The music video is really beautiful as well, so check that out if you've got the time.

**"Beat Of My Drum" by Powers:** Looking for something more upbeat? This song always raises my spirits and makes me want to dance along. If you're having a Valentine's Day party, consider adding this to the playlist.

**"Still Into You" by Paramore:** This one is also upbeat. It's really

cute too. It's about a long-term relationship that's still going strong, which you may or may not be able to relate to on Valentine's Day (if you can't relate it's ok, neither can I). Regardless, it's adorable and uplifting and I love it anyway.

**"Our Song" by Taylor Swift:** Perhaps the greatest love song of the early 2000s, it's hard not to get into the country pop that is early Taylor Swift. The catchy rhythm and upbeat music are sure to put you in a good mood!



CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON/CC BY-SA 2.0

Ed Sheeran is an English artist who recently released a new song entitled "Shape of You."



## VOICES

Here is the section where you can publish your unique thoughts, ideas and perspectives on life at Hopkins and beyond.

## Bishop's "One Art" explores loss in all its forms



Bessie Liu  
Write Me

In "B'More: Medicine, Art and Storytelling," a class I took over Intercession, we discussed the poem, "One Art" by Elizabeth Bishop, which I remembered reading in AP Literature. It touches upon the themes of grief and loss in an interesting way.

Just like "Sestina," another poem by Bishop which I've previously written about, "One Art" also follows a poetic form: the villanelle.

The first few stanzas of this poem are three lines each and read almost like instructions that the speaker is imparting to readers. This instructional nature of the poem brings up an interesting irony between the powerlessness one feels when accepting defeat and the control that Bishop implies one can have in "mastering" the art of losing.

Throughout the entire poem, the repetition of "the art of losing isn't hard to master" continues to weave in this irony,

further raising doubt in the readers' minds about Bishop's assertion. Bishop unites her stanzas with another progression as well.

She starts out by describing losing seemingly minor objects like keys — "every day" objects. Then she moves on to losing "places, and names, and where it was you meant to travel" and then to "two cities, lovely ones" and "a continent." As she widens the scope and stakes of her poem, she urges the readers to treat this as "practice."

But through everything she has touched upon, from losing trivial household items to losing dreams, identities and places she used to be able to call home, it becomes clear that the author herself does not believe that the art of losing can be mastered.

The last stanza of the poem begins with a dash, indicating a shift in tone and topic. We find ourselves zooming back into the speaker's life, going abruptly from the vastness of realms and continents to the intimacy of the speaker's relationship with a loved one, in an almost stream-of-consciousness realization that the greatest loss is that of a person.

The last stanza clearly deviates from its previous structure, with an extra fourth line. Whether the

poet's intention here is to deviate from the prevailing metrical pattern or simply to adhere to the poem's villanelle form, which specifies that the ending should be a quatrain, this deviation emphasizes the speaker's increasing self-denial and suppressed emotion, as if they simply can't confine their words within three lines.

Finally, the speaker reveals their most devastating loss, the loss that caused them to try to detach themselves from all emotion so that they might avoid feeling "like disaster."

I think one of the most unique things about "One Art" is that, through the entire poem, Bishop delivers a message that is the exact opposite of her words' literal meaning. After all, is it truly great to say that you're a master

at losing things important to you? And in choosing to write her poem this way, Bishop implicitly highlights her self-denial and grief by placing the subjects of each stanza in increasing order of importance, ending with "you."

One of my favorite things about this piece is the interjection of "Write it!" in the parenthesis in the very last line, almost as if Bishop is commanding herself, forcing herself to write what she has kept hidden from even herself for so long; that losing a loved one is the most painful loss of all.

I think this poem has the capacity to resonate deeply with every single one of its readers. "One Art" challenges us all to think about what matters to each of us and about what we would most fear to lose.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Elizabeth Bishop was an American poet who wrote during the 1950s.

## Ever wonder why you give roses on Valentine's?



Meagan Peoples  
Think About It

If you couldn't tell from the gross abundance of chocolates or the aggressive stares from the single, Valentine's Day has come and gone again. And if, like me, you spent the day crying into a box of chocolate you bought for yourself, then perhaps you carry more than a little bit of resentment for all the symbols we associate so closely with this holiday of love.

While I can forgive any disgust for the glittery hearts and the affront they appose to an institution that is the proving ground for so many future doctors, I simply cannot allow the rose to face the same kind of cynical scrutiny that we allow for other aspects of this holiday.

Although it is equally a part of the ironic capitalist machine that seems to run Valentine's Day, the rose still holds a special place in my heart. Roses occur naturally throughout the entire northern hemisphere, albeit not in the form that is typically purchased by the dozen. In fact, the earliest known rose fossils are 35 million years old.

Perhaps it is their endurance as a species, perhaps it is simply because they are so ubiquitous, but roses are significant in a variety of cultures and make appearances in the legends of a multi-

tude of societies.

China was the first to cultivate roses about 5000 years ago. *Rosa chinensis*, commonly known as the China rose, is perhaps the most important variety in that cross-breeding with European roses led to two important characteristics.

The first is repeat blooming and the second is the deep red color that we so closely associate with roses. In fact, China was likely the leading rose-cultivating country until only about 300 years ago. However, most roses today come from Ecuador or Colombia. In fact, 78 percent of all cut flowers exchanged on this yearly festival of love come from these two countries.

Many other societies also cultivated roses, including the Romans. Roses were thought to bring good luck and were often sprinkled under the wheels of chariots. They even make an appearance in mythology. Cupid was supposed to have bribed Harpocrates, the goddess of silence, with a rose in order to keep quiet the escapades of his mother, Venus.

This tale then led to the practice of suspending a rose above the dinner table in order to remind guests that what happens at a dinner party stays at the dinner party. It is also why

the term *sub rosa* or, in English, "under the rose" stands for something confidential.

Even now, the rose continues to be an iconic flower. It is the official flower of the United States and the emblem of England. If we go back far enough, almost all the plants we know and love belong to the same family as roses (a family that includes almost 110 genera). This includes the *Rubus* genus (which includes blackberries) and *Prunus* (which includes apricots and almonds).

I guess now the question is, "How did roses become a part of Valentine's Day?" One theory is that, since ancient times, they have long been symbols of love. It is thought that Cleopatra filled her chambers with rose petals in order to impress Mark Antony with her opulence and force him to think of her every time he saw a rose.

However, the choice of roses on Valentine's Day most likely has less

to do with their beauty and more to do with their hardness. As a holiday that falls almost directly in the middle of winter, flower companies are more or less out of luck unless they can depend on a steady stream of supplies being shipped over from the aforementioned countries which help supply a \$2 billion dollar floral industry.

In order to ensure that merchandise, which is grown in preparation specifically for Valentine's Day, remains intact during shipping, it is important that the flower that most people request is able to withstand such an arduous journey.

So perhaps roses on Valentines do not have the most romantic origins, but frankly this just seems to be a continuation of the greeting card company driven theme that seems to follow the holiday wherever it goes. Despite this, however, roses have always been and continue to be associated with love.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Many roses are native to the U.S., but China was the first to cultivate the flower.

## The five best date spots on campus

Brody

You and your date can be pressured into finishing your work for the rest of the week by the overwhelming weight of the stress that perpetually hangs over the atrium late at night.

Olin

It's out of the way and quiet, and you're almost guaranteed to surprise your date by bringing them there. Trying to come off as enigmatic and deep? Bring your partner to experience the wonders of Olin!

D-Level

What's the worst part about dating? The awkward conversation. On D-level you don't have to worry about that. You and your partner can simply sit there, basking in the silence and the sound of panic as all the students around you test the limits of sleep deprivation.

The Gatehouse

Ever wonder what a room smells like after a dozen college students spend a straight 12 hours in it, working to meet a publishing deadline and slowly going insane? Well, should you and your date choose to visit the Gatehouse next date night, you can! Come and get a behind the scenes look at how the production process of a student newspaper works. I promise it's not nearly as glamorous as *Gilmore Girls* makes it look.

The Steam Tunnels

Is your goal for things to start getting steamy? Then what better place to start than the steam tunnels? Let the threat of being written up stir your date to a flutter. Then look deep into their eyes, and guide them through the maze of graffiti and empty Natty Boh cans. Can't think of many places more romantic.



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NEWS-LETTER

Editorials

Students should use the  
off-campus housing database

Johns Hopkins does not provide housing for students after their sophomore year, and many students have difficulty finding a place to live after moving out of the dorms.

Students attempting to find off-campus housing have the option of using an online database located on the Off-Campus Housing website. This program is specifically tailored to Hopkins affiliates and requires a JHED account in order to use.

Though it is mostly used by graduate students and Hopkins staff, undergraduate students are also able to post and respond to listings. Students can search for housing by rent, number of rooms and neighborhood. It is also possible to post listings for subletting.

The Editorial Board commends the Off-Campus House Office for having such a comprehensive tool in place, but the Office does not promote it enough. Many students are not even aware of its existence and are unable to benefit from it.

Most underclassmen find their off campus housing through word of mouth from their upperclassmen peers.

This process is often stressful for many students who don't have intimate connections with upperclassmen. Using this database, students would be able to search for availabilities with greater ease and much less stress.

In order to increase traffic to the website, The Editorial Board suggest making it more user-friendly to undergraduates by creating search options for undergraduate-only housing.

We also suggest that the Second Year Experience (SYE) join with the Off-Campus Housing Office in promoting this database. Sophomores, in particular, are often confused by the new process of finding and leasing housing. By giving sophomores the tools to better understand their options and the process of applying for housing, we believe that the SYE would remove one of the most

significant barriers affecting the transition from second to third year.

Subletting apartments can also be a difficult process for many students, particularly juniors and seniors studying abroad. The Editorial Board encourages the Office for Study Abroad to make use of the database to facilitate the study abroad process.

The Editorial Board also encourages widespread advertising of this service to the offices and companies who lease apartments, rooms and houses. While many of the listings are popular with students, there are also many common housing options that are missing from the database. If more buildings put out listings through this website, it would be immensely easier for students to survey their options.

The Editorial Board believes that by better promoting this database, Hopkins can better support students in the transition to off-campus housing.

Democratic Party should listen  
to its younger members

Donna Brazile, the interim chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), came to Hopkins last Friday as part of a "listening tour" to connect with students. She spoke about the future of the Democratic Party in a meeting closed to the general campus community and open only to leaders of ten left-leaning groups on campus.

After facing defeat in the presidential election, the Democratic Party has been forced to reevaluate its approach in the Trump era. The DNC is working to recover its base and unify the party. However, the nature of Brazile's visit raises questions about the party's approach.

If the goal of the tour is to draw in more young people, why limit the attendance? If the DNC wanted to canvas the opinions of left leaning students they should have opened the event to a larger student audience. This decision mirrors the direction in which the DNC is moving. Instead of capitalizing on the grassroots supporters of Bernie Sanders and other progressive candidates the DNC has failed to re-

connect with their base.

If the DNC wants to win an election in the future, The Editorial board thinks that party leaders need to make a concerted effort to ride the anti-Trump wave and to work with the organizers and the participants not just co-opt them. They need to listen to the young people who will be and already are being affected by an aggressive Republican Congress and President.

Many students care deeply about the issues the Democratic Party claims to advocate for, but in reality, the party has done very little to address students' concerns. If the DNC truly wants to connect with young people, they need to work with the burgeoning anti-Trump movement to create real change.

Trump's election has sparked a passion for activism in young voters. Many young people are protesting and standing up for their political beliefs for the first time in their lives, and the party should work with these new and pre-existing groups to engage with the next generation of voters.

Brazile's advice to the students at the meeting

is a prime example of how out of the touch the DNC is with their youngest members. Attendees reported that Brazile said running for local office was the only way to effect real political change. By overlooking the power of activism, the Democratic party risks losing its most passionate members.

Even more concerning is the DNC's lack of accountability. Party leaders need to deal with the problems that arose during the election, most notably when Brazile leaked debate questions to Hillary Clinton and the DNC's overt support of Clinton over Sanders during the presidential primary.

Brazile told students at the meeting that "people need to come back to the party," not the other way around. But why would young people return to the DNC if they aren't given a way to discuss or change the aspects of the party they disagree with? Many young people in part blame the DNC for the results of the election, and if they want to win, we suggest that the DNC approach and work with students to fix the disconnect.

LETTERS & OP-ED POLICY

The News-Letter encourages letters to the editor and op-eds. The Johns Hopkins News-Letter reserves the sole right to edit all op-ed pieces and/or letters to the editor for space, grammar, clarity, accuracy and style. This applies to the body of the submission as well as its headline. Upon approval for publication, all op-eds and letters to the editor become property of The News-Letter. The News-Letter reserves the right to not publish any op-ed or letter to the editor for any reason, at the sole discretion of the Editors-in-Chief. Letters to the editor are limited to 250 words, must address content previously published in The News-Letter, and must include the author's name, address and phone number. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for inclusion in that week's issue; they should be sent to [chiefs@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:chiefs@jhnewsletter.com) (with "Letter to the editor" in the subject line) or the mailing address below. To write an op-ed, contact [opinions@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:opinions@jhnewsletter.com). Op-eds are not limited in their length except as available space may dictate. All submissions may be published online as well as in the paper, and no anonymous submissions will be accepted.

Submittal of an op-ed and/or letter to the editor acknowledges your acceptance of and agreement to these policies. Any questions about these policies should be directed to the Editors-in-Chief of The News-Letter at [chiefs@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:chiefs@jhnewsletter.com).

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# OPINIONS

*With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.*

## Former research animals deserve safe homes



PUBLIC DOMAIN  
The Maryland State House will hold hearings for the legislation.

By CELINA CISNEROS

This month the Maryland General Assembly will be considering the Humane Adoption of Companion Animals Used in Research Act (SB 420, HB 528). This piece of legislation calls for research institutions in Maryland, including Hopkins and many others, to take reasonable steps in allowing for the adoption of research dogs and cats following their time spent as research animals.

The exact requirements of the bill for the research facilities include the establishment of a list of organizations that the research institution can work with to facilitate adoption and a yearly report that would detail the number of dogs and cats owned by the institution, the number of these animals used in research, the number of these animals released to rescue organizations and the name of the organization to which the animals were released.

The bill also stipulates that the research institution must take "reasonable" steps to find a "willing" and able rescue organization to take the dog or cat in. That being said, the bill does not include any restrictions on the actual research projects or the treatment of the animals while they are being used in the project.

This bill was first introduced to the legislature last spring and was met by fierce opposition from University lobbyists. A major argument from the opposition has been the slippery slope argument, or the belief that this bill would lead to further restrictions on biomedical research.

Additionally, while there are differences, the reporting required by the act is similar to what is already imposed by the U.S. Animal Welfare Act (1966). Others are concerned that the influx of dogs and cats will overburden state shelters or that the new law will disrupt established post-research adoption policies set up independently by some research institutions.

Proponents of the bill have addressed these concerns by emphasizing that the rescue organizations charged with taking in the research animals must be willing and able to do so and often function independently of state shelters.

Furthermore, the rescue organizations would provide training and treatment to transition the animals from research animals to pets. While some research facilities (including Hopkins) have stated that they already have post-research adoption policies, there is no way to ensure that all Maryland institutions are doing the same.

As a world leader in research, the University has a right to be proud of the many discoveries made at Hopkins since its establishment. The use of animals in biomedical research is not up for debate here.

Animal research plays an

important role in the study of the immune system, organ transplants, diabetes and much more.

I am not calling for restrictions on biomedical research projects but simply for the opportunity to give dogs and cats a chance for adoption after their time as research animals is over. I am someone who sees great value in biomedical research as well as the importance for the humane treatment of animals.

After considering both sides of the debate, I found myself in support of the bill because I see it as an opportunity for researchers to uphold their responsibility to care for animals as humanely as possible.

Currently working with research animals myself, I can say that the researchers that work with these animals truly strive for the most humane treatment of the animals and genuinely care about their welfare.

It is well known that a large portion of Hopkins undergraduates take part in research, and many work directly with mice, primates, dogs, cats and other animals. Proponents of the bill reached out to the JHU Pre-Veterinary Club and JHU PAWS in an effort to increase awareness and support for the bill within the Hopkins community.

Committee hearings for the bill have been scheduled for Feb. 14 and Feb. 21, and several Hopkins students have already testified or plan to offer testimonies in support of the bill at these hearings. Animals ought to have an opportunity to find a good home after their tenure as research subjects, and Hopkins students can help to secure that future.

*Celina Cisneros is a senior molecular and cellular biology major from Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.*

## The Democrats are on their way out

By EMELINE ARMITAGE

This weekend, I watched a talk from Larry Holmes (not the boxer but the first secretary of the Workers World Party) about the current role of the Democratic Party. After the election, Holmes made the point that if the Democrats truly wanted to stop Trump, as they claim to in their rhetoric, they could do so easily.

They could come together as a party, walk out onto the steps of the Capital and tell people to take to the streets. To strike. Democratic governors would not call the National Guard. Really, in this political climate, they could get away with things unthinkable a few years ago.

But they will not do that. Regardless of their rhetoric, the Democrats will not stop Trump. Their role is to be the opposition party. If they had to, the Democrats would cling to the Constitution, yelling for civility as they are dragged to prison. This may sound alarmist, but I don't think it is.

Trump is quickly working on fulfilling his campaign promises (the "Wall," deporting innocent people, the travel ban) except for one: his long-standing promise to prosecute Hillary Clinton. The current president has massive campaign rallies with people chanting "Lock Her Up."

It is not alarmist to consider the fact that many people took this chant very seriously. Yet the Democrats are fully collaborating with the Trump regime: voting for his nominees, being willing to give him a chance, etc.

Because, in truth, the Democrats and the Trump-led Republican party are not that distinct (although this does not negate the fears of people worried about Trump escalating or going after new groups of people). Many of liberals' worst fears under Trump came true under Barack Obama.

Mass deportations (Obama deported more people than any other president, about 2.5 million people), jailing of political prisoners. (Chelsea Manning was imprisoned under Obama; Leonard Peltier and many others were denied clemency), building danger-

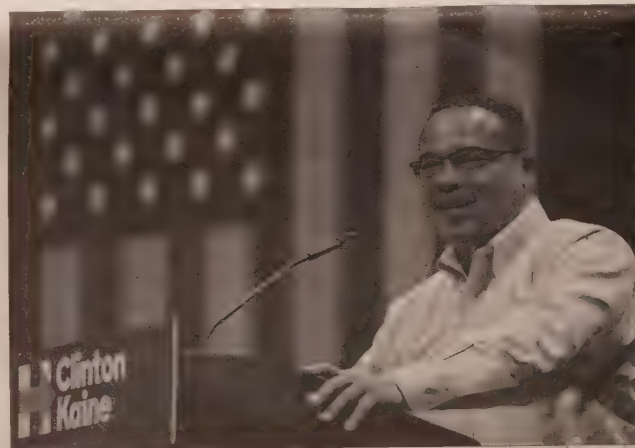
ous pipelines, not doing nearly enough to stop climate change, etc.

The Department of Education under Obama championed school-privatization policies similar to those of Betsy DeVos. My 100 percent Democrat-run hometown, Cleveland, is plagued with police brutality, extrajudicial murders by police, rampant poverty and a failing school system. One need look no further for the destructive policies of the Democrats than the "Rust Belt" cities.

For the record, I see no problem in voting for Democrats as a harm-reduction strategy. Yet I am fearful that the current mass protests against Trump's policies will be co-opted by the Democrats.

Democrats have been showing up at mass protests around the country; Martin O'Malley showed up a few weeks ago to the anti-travel ban protest at BWI airport. I see some people praising Democrats showing up at protests, yet to see their presence as anything other than a political stunt is misguided.

I did not see Democratic politicians protesting when Obama and Bill Clinton enacted similar policies to Trump. In fact, a few months ago, the Democrats performed a sit-in in Congress, which they publicized as being pro-gun control but included support for the expansion of the "No-Fly" list, a list infamous for racially profiling. The same Democrats now standing up to protest unjust policies were just sitting down for similar policies mere months ago.



LORIE SCHAULL/CC BY-SA 4.0  
Keith Ellison is running for DNC chair as a representative of the leftists in the party.

## Look for neutrality, not consensus, in discussions with peers

By TOMMY KOH

Many of us are familiar with the phrase "agree to disagree." Some of us may consider this phrase to be symbolic of an informed conclusion after a well-reasoned discussion. After all, we live in a world where to recognize diversity, including diversity of thought, is considered valuable.

It is indeed true that casting a broad net for ideas and incorporating multiple perspectives enriches discourse. Such an approach enables claims to be tested, ideas to be debated and conclusions to be justified.

However, the decision to accept two outcomes stalls this process of enquiry and leaves

various ambiguous outcomes on the table.

While there are certainly instances where ideological differences preclude a single answer, the process of asking "why," of thinking critically and expansively about the impact and consequences of ideas and action is important. It is easy, even lazy, to claim that our differences in beliefs and ideas should ever protect us from having to explain and justify why we believe what we believe.

It is this very dialectic that challenges norms, that identifies values and that empowers individuals, communities and populations to imagine a brave new future. And as we think critically, it is likely that we find answers that are normatively superior.

The presence or absence of a process of critical inquiry is the border between neutrality and mediocrity, between difference and ignorance. In our desire to find consen-

sus and to talk about (and avoid offending) feelings, we have too often fallen short of giving our ideas and beliefs the time and thought they deserve.

Practically, this has manifested in the differentiation of safe and brave spaces, creating separate spheres where we can choose whether to opt out or to engage. The concept of a safe space is appealing. It would be largely unpopular to deny any individual the ability to share their views without judgement. Yet, the definitional distinction between safe and brave spaces may also be an arbitrary one.

We must ask why spaces cannot be safe and brave at the same time. Why is it that hard to accept that ideas can be critically engaged with in a place where individuals feel safe? An unfortunate outcome of differentiating the two has been that we have come to see them as separate without thinking about how we can merge them together.

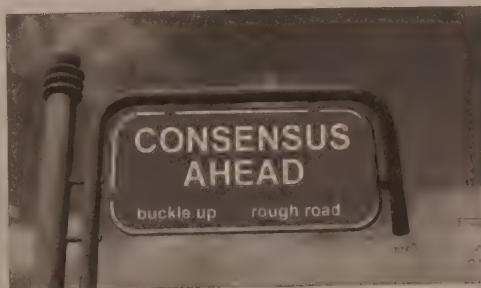
It is neutrality and not consensus that we should seek: respect regardless of agreement, empathy over judgement. This is not the equivalent of "agreeing to disagree." It is a commitment to be open-minded about the issues and ideas at

hand. To discuss with the intent of defending positions while being open to changing them if another is shown to be superior.

It is the process of advancing understanding and pursuing truth; a commitment to neutral spaces, more so than safe, safer, brave or braver spaces, is what will save us from the trap of mediocrity, from being mere mirrors of the dominant thoughts of the day. We are intelligent beings, surely we can think for ourselves.

We live in an era where false claims and "alternative facts" have become normalized in discourse. Neutrality, openness and the willingness to consider and evaluate all potential claims will protect us against the polarization of opinions and thought. It is this type of protection that we truly need and not protection against all thoughts which differ from our own. Only then will we be able to consider the practical consequences of our ideas and beliefs and find the best ones out there in a true idea meritocracy.

*Tommy Koh is a senior majoring in political science, psychology and social policy. He is from Singapore.*



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It is difficult to reach a consensus, so try to be open minded.



The Maryland Humane Adoption of Companion Animals in Research Act would simply provide an opportunity for dogs and cats to live in a home as adopted pets once their time in research laboratories has come to an end.

## SO WHY IS JOHNS HOPKINS LOBBYING TO KILL THIS BILL?



Ask your administration why they are fighting against **common-sense animal welfare legislation** and urge your state legislators to support **SB 420/HB 528**.

For more information and to help visit: [aspca.org/MDbeagles](http://aspca.org/MDbeagles)

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## Rogers House 2017

"Healthy Living & Sustainability"

Residential Life offers Rogers House as a unique residential community experience where a "Healthy Living & Sustainability" framework is provided.



Rogers House focuses on residents and programming that prioritizes balanced living, exercise & nutrition, rest & relaxation, sustainability, and substance-free living.

For more information contact the Wolman Housing Office  
Tel: 410-516-7960  
Email: [confirmation@jhu.edu](mailto:confirmation@jhu.edu)

**Tuesday, February 21st | 12:00pm - 2:00pm**  
Housing Information Booth at Fresh Food Café

**Tuesday, February 21st | 7:00pm - 8:00pm**  
Open House @ Rogers House, 3506 Greenway

**Wednesday, February 22nd @ 10:00am - Sunday, February 26th @ 11:59pm**  
Application Available On-Line at <https://jhu.starrezhousing.com/StarRezPortal>  
**Deadline: Sunday, February 26th @ 11:59pm**

**Monday, February 27th**  
Rogers House Eligibility email notification distributed via email by 3:00pm

**Tuesday, February 28th**  
Rogers House Time Slot Notification distributed via email by 5:00pm

**Thursday, March 2nd**  
Rogers House Online Room Selection Process  
Choosing time based on Time Slot Notification

**Deadline to apply: Sunday, February 26th @ 11:59pm**  
For more info visit <https://jhu.starrezhousing.com/StarRezPortal>

## Important Dates



# THE B SECTION

YOUR WEEKEND • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • CARTOONS, ETC. • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY • SPORTS

FEBRUARY 16, 2017



## Arts & Entertainment

*I Am Not Your Negro* shares legacy of James Baldwin — B3  
 Lady Gaga's journey from *The Fame* to *Joanne* — B3  
*Kiki Leaks*: Paris Hilton's impact on fashion in the 2000s — B4



## Science & Technology

BME professor receives \$1.8 million grant from NIH — B7  
 New interactive table in Brody helps stroke patients — B7  
 Endangered monkey species found in Central Africa — B8



## Sports

Reflections on a Real Madrid soccer game — B10  
 M. lacrosse defeats UMBC 15-5 — B11  
 M. wrestling takes seventh in championships — B12



# YOUR WEEKEND FEBRUARY 16-19

## Events in Baltimore this weekend

### Thursday

#### Awake Zion, Creative Alliance, 6:30 p.m.

Charm City Tribe, a Jewish community group in Baltimore, will host a talk before a screening of *Awake Zion*, a documentary by Monica Haim exploring Jewish, Rasta, white and black identity, as well as the idea of home. \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door.

### Friday

#### 4 Hours of Funk! Motown Special, The Windup Space, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

This weekend comes the Motown edition of the popular Baltimore dance party. Come prepared to hear both classics and lesser-known tracks. DJ Fleg and Graham Hatke will be in attendance. Will you? \$5.

### Saturday

#### Second Annual Vegan Mac n' Cheese Smackdown, Baltimore City Community College, 3 p.m.

Are you a vegan? Do you love mac n' cheese? Did you answer yes to one or both of those questions? Then this may be your event. Tickets will include entry, samples of all mac n' cheese, a vote for the winner, and admission to an afterparty. All proceeds go to Thrive Baltimore and Better Health, Better Life. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

#### The Ground: Opening Reception, Hutzler Brothers Palace Building, 6 p.m.

Ground is an exhibition by Michael Jones McKean presented by the Contemporary. It will feature the historic Hutzler Brothers Palace, turned to an architectonic maze where time and telos are twisted and examined. Free.

### Sunday

#### Islam in Washington: Then and Now, Smithsonian's Freer and Sackler Galleries, 2 p.m.

The Smithsonian is hosting a conversation wherein you can learn about slaves in the 1600s, D.C.'s first mosque, Thomas Jefferson's Qur'an, and other aspects of the fascinating history of Muslim communities in Washington, D.C. in connection with the exhibition *The Art of the Qur'an*. Free.

### Errata: Feb. 9 Edition

In the article "Spro is charming but not ideal for studying," it was incorrectly stated that Artifact and Bird in Hand locally roasted their own coffee beans. They actually roast their coffee beans in Durham, North Carolina.

The News-Letter regrets this error.



COURTESY OF RENEE SCAVONE  
Historic Lexington Market makes you feel like a real Baltimore local.

By RENEE SCAVONE  
For The News-Letter

While many students at Hopkins venture off campus for concerts, poetry readings and sporting events, it is not uncommon for even the most adventurous students to find themselves remaining in the bubble when looking for a quick bite.

Justifying a trip to the Inner Harbor or Fell's Point for a fancy night out is one thing, but 60 minutes between classes isn't enough to merit an Uber downtown. And who doesn't turn to the array of restaurants on St. Paul when their friend group can't decide on one thing to eat in particular?

Enter Lexington Market. With over 100 vendors located in the space,

there is something for everyone, from fried chicken to pure berry smoothies and homemade meat loaf.

While the building itself is unassuming from the outside, when you come through the Market's double-door entrance on Paca Street, you are immediately struck by the inside's busy atmosphere. The walls are covered in murals, some famous and some original. Brightly colored vendors offer an array of things for sale, from food to clothes to cell phone SIM cards.

And, if you pop in early on Saturday, you will surely be greeted by waves of people hustling around to see who has a good deal on Berger cookies or Malaysian food.

I first went to the Lex-

ington Market at 9 a.m. on a Wednesday, when it was considerably less crowded. As I stood in front of Faidley's Seafood, I had a moment of feeling truly like a local.

While I grabbed breakfast from a nearby stand, my companion found herself craving rice pudding, and lo and behold, we discovered some quite easily, at a Cattleman's Pride in the center of the market.

That random, spur-of-the-moment craving and discovery can sum up the food options at Lexington Market fairly well: If you want it, you can probably find it.

And unlike back home on Charles Street, most meals from vendors at the market won't set you back more than a few bucks. My first breakfast on that Wednesday morning was a cheese omelet and hash browns that I watched be made on the griddle right in front of me. The meal was both tasty and filling and only cost me \$4.

One of my favorite quick treats to grab from the aforementioned Cattleman's is their strawberry smoothies. As far as I can tell from what I've seen, the only things that they put in the drink are water and a metric ton of strawberries. It costs \$2.50 and definitely tastes better than some \$4 Naked Juice from CharMar.

Beyond a cheap and delicious bite to eat, a Saturday afternoon or Wednesday morning trip to Lexington Market

also offers the chance to feel like I really live in Baltimore, and not just on a few blocks of North Charles Street.

Instead of staring at my fellow, exhausted Hopkins students and getting lunch from a chain spot like Chipotle, I can meet actual Baltimoreans and know that my money is going towards supporting local businesses.

For all of these reasons (and more) Lexington Market is a great place to head for a quick meal and some local color. It's also incredibly convenient to get to for Hopkins students. Simply take the Charm City Circulator purple route to Saratoga Street, and then walk west on Saratoga for about ten minutes until you hit Paca Street.

You'll be able to see the market before you round the corner. This walk also takes you through a fun neighborhood with tons of other interesting shops to explore. If you've been waiting for an excuse to head to the Sister Lisa Psychic Reader on Saratoga, the post-meal walk is your chance!

However you get there, head over to the Lexington Market. Grab a crab cake or some handmade bread pudding, find a table between Connie's Waffle Stand and the mural replica of American Gothic, and feel like a real part of the Baltimore community, if only for a few delicious bites.

## HBO's *The Young Pope* is complex and engaging

By NATHAN BICK  
For The News-Letter

This Sunday marks the end of this season of *The Young Pope*, the new television drama series created and directed by Italian Paolo Sorrentino. With nine episodes having aired to date, the 10th and final installment is poised to be a major event.

For the binge watchers out there, with each episode running around one hour each, it might be a challenge to catch up for the live finale, but it's well worth it. Likewise for the more deliberately paced viewer, the experience of watching *The Young Pope* is looking to be a good one.

The titular character is the former American Archbishop of New York Lenny Belardo, now newly elected as Pope Pius XIII. He is literally young (as a pope around fifty years of age), but figuratively he is young as well — radical, passionate and innovative in surprising ways.

Portrayed by the well-known English actor Jude Law, Pope Pius XIII's complex character profile is the main draw of the series. Lenny as a man is shown to be both harsh and loving, capable of dogmatic fanaticism toward the world at large and also tenderly comforting toward those he loves.

While in each separate scene Lenny is convincing, fully owning the

mood of the moment, comparing scenes leaves the viewer at times questioning whether Lenny possesses separate alternate personas.

This is the interplay between Lenny Belardo and Pope Pius XIII. Lenny is an abandoned orphan still searching for his parents, a gentle priest, and an ambitious scholar and careerist. Pius XIII, heavily implied to be divine, is almost fanatically devoted to God, and is a mindful public relations guru.

Taking this unpredictability as a pillar of Lenny's overarching personality helps the character resolve over the series as a full-bodied and complete persona. If forced to label the series, one might best describe *The Young Pope* as a character study. It is an analysis and portrayal of a certain combination of traits distinguishing a unique individual.

Alongside Jude Law are quality supporting actors and actresses. Most notable are Diane Keaton playing Sister Mary, the American nun who raised Lenny at the orphanage, and Silvio Orlando playing Cardinal Secretary of State Angelo Voiello, the cunning behind-the-scenes ruler of Vatican City and the Catholic Church.

Besides these apparent attributes, the series has something in store for a wide variety of viewers. Those interested in court intrigue and covert po-



GEORGES BIARD/CC-BY-SA-3.0  
Jude Law plays the radical Pope Pius XIII in HBO's *The Young Pope*.

litical machinations will enjoy the infighting that ensues after Pius XIII's marked departure from tradition.

Cinephiles will appreciate the clever cinematography and the composition of the frames themselves. Art or architecture enthusiasts will jump at the opportunity to immerse themselves in the full beauty of Vatican City and Rome.

And of course, the infusion of the religious and the mystical to the series raises questions both within the show and within the viewer. Music lovers will enjoy the soundtrack, which is as unpredictable as the

show's main character.

The cultural moment is also ripe for a character such as Lenny/Pius. We can draw comparisons between him and the current pope in their revolutionary actions, or between him and President Trump in the ostentation and unpredictability that they represent.

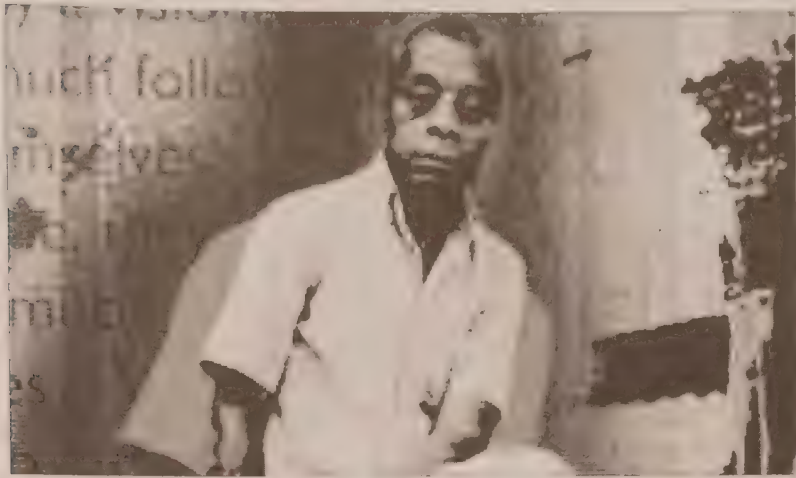
Finally, it has been mentioned before but is worth repeating: the show is strongest where it unabashedly cleaves its own logic and style and is weakest where it follows traditional genre.

That said, I have high hopes for the show this Sunday.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Baldwin film resonates in a divided Baltimore Coppin State gets turned up with Migos



AK ROCKEFELLER/CC-BY-SA 2.0

A painting of James Baldwin, the acclaimed writer behind such classic books as *The Devil Finds Work*.

that defies categorization.

*I Am Not Your Negro* is indeed a documentary in the sense that it is factual. However, it's not as simple as that — this movie is a collage, an eclectic mix of old film clips, interviews, news reels, cell-phone camera video and photographs.

These varied images are all linked together by Baldwin's words, connecting them to the murders of three men and the battle that they and the author fought. Peck's encapsulation of Baldwin's brilliance and his unique perspective is made all the more better by the fact that Samuel L. Jackson is the narrator.

Frankly, I can not tell you how to feel about this movie. I can not offer any insight into its meaning and its implications in contemporary American society. I am just a juvenile 21 year old with a cinema fixation and an outlet that I probably do not deserve. This movie will no doubt mean different things to different people, but I will tell you how *I Am Not Your Negro* made me feel, as an upper-middle-class white liberal.

It was a reminder that complacency is dangerous, that racism is not some sickness that I can pretend to have been cured of. Baldwin's words combined with Peck's vision piece together a discriminatory system, one which is built on inaction as much as it is oppression.

The film critiques  
SEE BALDWIN, PAGE B5

By DUBRAY KINNEY  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

"I'm sick of these Soundcloud rappers bruh. When is Migos playing?" said the guy next to me.

That guy had his finger on the pulse of the crowd (which I was part of). We were all restless to see one of the bigger rap groups this side of Future.

Migos played the Coppin State University homecoming and I had managed to snag tickets along with two other friends. The concert took place at the Coppin State University Physical Education Complex and was titled *Bad and Boujee*, with its namesake coming from Migos' chart-topping hit. The event, which took place on Feb. 8, was one of many events heralding Coppin State's Homecoming, and it was a lively affair.

This homecoming comes on the heels of their Homecoming 2016 that also featured rappers Tory Lanez and Wale (which, gotta say, is pound for pound better than our own offerings of Shwayze and The Chainsmokers, depending on how you stand on the EDM to rap music scale).

Before I go into the show itself, I'd be remiss if I didn't at least give a bit of a prelude to Migos. Well, lets be fair here, if you read our section, you probably listen to Migos.

Our own Will Kirsch wrote a review for their album *Culture* which was released this past January. The rap group is absolutely huge right now, with their hits, "Bad and Boujee" as well as "T-Shirt" making for a great Saturday night for anyone seeking one.

In the hours before the concert, controversy struck. In an interview with *Rolling Stone*, they came under fire for their comments on fellow rapper iLoveMakonnen after he came out of the closet.

"I mention support I saw online for Makonnen's decision. 'They supported him?' Quavo asks, raising an eyebrow. 'That's because the world is f\*\*ked up,' says Offset." *Rolling Stone's* writer Jonah Weiner wrote.

The internet blew up with news of Migos' homophobia, and rightfully so. It served as a reminder that even though rap is can be progressive in the ways that it touches certain topics, there is still much prevalent homophobia and sexism in the art form. Migos soon after put forth an apology that was awkwardly worded at best but the sting from their comments is still there.

Makonnen's response seemed to be more towards spreading love than striking back at the popular rap group.

In the hours before the  
SEE MIGOS, PAGE B5



Will Kirsch  
The Cut-Rate Critic

Movies are great: They can entertain, delight, teach, upset, enrage and make you have an existential crisis about your role in the pervasive, vast and many headed hydra that is American racism.

In a day and age where former Klansman David Duke has over two hundred thousand followers on Twitter, debonair fascists are infecting political discourse at every level and our president is essentially the Jerry Springer version of Benito Mussolini, having some uncomfortable thoughts about race relations in the United States is quite a good thing.

Enter Raoul Peck's *I Am Not Your Negro*, a documentary built around iconic author James Baldwin's incomplete manuscript for *Remember This House*, a memoir struc-

tured around the deaths of three men: Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr.

Fun fact: the publisher McGraw-Hill sued Baldwin's estate after the author's death to get back a two hundred thousand dollar advance for *Remember This House*.

You might know McGraw-Hill as the company that makes all those horribly overpriced textbooks you used in grade school. Now you can know them as the massive company that sued a dead American icon.

*I Am Not Your Negro* premiered in September of last year at the Toronto Film Festival to fairly universal acclaim, including an Oscar nomination, and was widely released in early February of this year. The film has been heralded by the A.V. Club, *The Wall Street Journal* and *Time*.

The director, Raoul Peck, is a Haitian film-

maker whose presence in the American film canon is relatively limited, although some may know him for the film *Some Times in April*, a drama,

starring Idris Elba, about the Rwandan genocide. Peck's approach to this film is an interesting one, and the project itself was ambitious.

Basing an hour-and-a-half long documentary on a less-than-50-page,

30-year-old unfinished manuscript was, to say the least, a bold venture. Somehow, Peck pulled it off and did so in a way

### I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO

**Starring:** James Baldwin, Samuel L. Jackson  
**Director:** Raoul Peck  
**Originally Released:** Sept. 10, 2016  
**Run Time:** 95 mins.  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Now Showing At:** The Charles

## Anna Pitoniak talks new book *The Futures*

By KATHERINE LOGAN  
Staff Writer

Anna Pitoniak, an editor at Random House, published her debut novel *The Futures* on Jan. 17. The book is a simultaneously romantic and decidedly realistic take on what happens post-graduation when you're forced to step out into the real world.

Pitoniak described *The Futures* to me as "the story of a young couple moving to New York City on the eve of the 2008 financial crisis, who find their relationship tested in the face of a high-stakes scandal."

*The Futures* has received rave reviews from the likes of *Town & Country*, *Marie Claire*, NPR, and *The New York Post*. I agree that it is definitely one of the new books worth reading, a literary bright spot amidst the dismal dreariness of the not-quite-spring months. During our recent interview, I had the pleasure

of speaking with Pitoniak about the creative process that went into writing *The Futures* and some of the nuanced themes she explores.

According to Pitoniak, her professional experience as an editor lent her a fresh perspective on the grit that writing a successful novel really takes, which she then used as inspiration to pick up the proverbial pen.

"Watching a writer go through so many drafts and revisions and rewrites upon rewrites made me realize that writing a novel was not something that you could only do if you had been born with some God-given talent. It was something that took a lot of work, a lot of discipline and a determination to make it as good as it could be. It was a very inspiring thing, to work in publishing and to be exposed to these amazing writers, and it made me think for the first time 'You know, maybe I could attempt to

SEE FUTURES, PAGE B5

By JACOB TOOK  
Staff Writer

Recently, Lady Gaga earned acclaim for her performance at the Super Bowl LI halftime show. In the days following, she announced a global tour to promote her most recent album *Joanne* and unexpectedly dropped a music video for her latest single "John Wayne."

Throughout her career, Gaga has faced ups and downs. Her early albums were critically lauded while some of her later projects received mixed reactions. With her spectacular performance at the Super Bowl as well as the popular and critical success of *Joanne*, it's easy to see just how different the pop icon has become since her early years.

*The Fame* was Gaga's breakout album, with singles like "Just Dance" and "Poker Face" rocketing to the top of charts

all around the world in 2008. It was comprised of the synth pop sound that became so strongly associated with Lady Gaga. 2009 saw *The Fame Monster*, a follow-up that was a distinctly more impactful project, moving away from bouncy pop hits to explore the darker side of fame.

Both albums were critically acclaimed, and *The Fame Monster* spawned her best lead single to date, "Bad Romance." This was the height of the Gaga craze, when the internet obsessed over her eccentric and outrageous outfits and her singles dominated mainstream radio. These years solidly tied Gaga to the synth pop genre that currently defines popular music.

And yet, the indications of her greater success as an artist rather than as a passing pop culture phenomenon were already starting



TJ SENGEL/CC-BY-2.0

Lady Gaga's tour for *Joanne* will be kicking off in the latter half of 2017.

to take root. *The Fame* and *The Fame Monster* earned her five Grammy awards as well as dozens of other awards and nominations, and she was highly ranked on *Forbes'* Celebrity 100 and *World's Most Powerful Women* lists.

Hot on the heels of

her massively successful debut, Gaga's next album *Born This Way* built on the glamorous persona that she'd so firmly established. The project also propelled her to front of the LGBT+ rights movement. With lead single "Born This Way," Gaga embraced her bisexuality and became a gay icon in the likes of Freddie Mercury or Elton John.

Some criticized "Born This Way" as pandering to the gay community, but Gaga has consistently been an activist for LGBT+ rights, from her action against the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy in the early stages of her career to her more recent responses to the Orlando Pulse shooting in 2016. After *Born This Way*, she launched the Born This Way Foundation to promote anti-bullying and

SEE GAGA, PAGE B5



JEREMIAH GARCIA/CC-BY-2.0

Jazz legend Tony Bennett worked with Lady Gaga on their 2014 collaborative album, *Cheek to Cheek*.



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Artists the HOP should go after for Spring Fair

By Dubray Kinney

## 1. The Last Artful, Dodgr

Shwayze's appearance on last year's Spring Fair bill was a misstep for the HOP and The Last Artful, Dodgr is a newer rapper that could serve as a step back in the right direction.

## 2. Danny Brown

Doubt it would happen but hearing, "Brown bless the mic like gesundheit" to open a set at Spring Fair would go far in increasing Spring Fair's legitimacy in more than one person's eyes.

## 3. Carnage

Following the Chainsmokers, the Arts Section acknowledges the campus' love for EDM and we propose Carnage to take the EDM mantle this year.

## 4. RL Grime

Another EDM option the Arts Section endorses.

# That's Hot: Hilton and the '00s fashion landscape



Kyra Lesser  
KIKI LEAKS

Kiki Leaks is a new column by Arts Section contributor Kyra Lesser. This week for her inaugural column, she writes on Paris Hilton and her influence on the 2000s.

Coco Chanel once said, "When accessorizing, always take off the last thing you put on." Well, guess what? Coco Chanel was a Nazi who never lived to see the words "Von Dutch" sewn onto a baby pink velour mesh trucker hat. The fashion of the early 2000s was like having a crush on your first cousin: obviously cringe-worthy, with a hint of enigmatic charm.

When attempting to dissect this material movement, it is hard to ignore the impact of one Paris Whitney Hilton. Paris stole the spotlight in the new millennium, ushering in an iconic brand as a socialite, model, sex-tape star and even (bless her heart) singer. But quite possibly the greatest gift Ms. Hilton offered us during this era was her utterly profound sense of style and undying devotion to the color pink.

May 2001: A rocky start for Ms. Hilton, most likely because she was not wearing her signature pink. Appearing at Maxim's "Hot 100" party in LA, Hilton makes an incredibly ironic choice by opting to wear an all-white outfit, disguising the fact that the only reason she was remotely relevant during this time



THEMEPLUS/CC-BY-SA-2.0

Paris sports her signature pink in the form of a bikini-top-scarf-shirt. Her style has "inspired" many.

period was because of her work in her "leaked" sex tape, *A Night In Paris*.

Let's work from bottom to top, shall we? Hilton starts her look with sky-high, studded white go-go boots that climb all the way up to her knees. Her dress is a calf length, white fringe number that looks as if Hilton may have been mauled by a bear before her appearance.

To cap off her look, Hilton settles on a crisp, white bucket hat.

At night. The sun is not shining. There is literally not an ounce of sunlight at the time of this event.

March 2002: Hilton is in attendance at one of the five birthday parties she threw for herself to celebrate her 21st birthday. Donning a sheer, polka dotted, pink mini dress with matching lingerie underneath, Hilton sticks to her roots by wearing upwards of an estimated \$100k worth of jewelry.

What did this jewelry

include, you ask? Bejeweled silver hoops in the shape of a heart, a studded cross pendant and finally, cementing her status as a queen, a diamond tjara.

May 2003: Hilton has just wrapped up the first season of her reality show, *The Simple Life*, with

rumored frenemy Nicole Richie. Due to either a publicity stunt or overheating, Ms. Hilton stepped out in a look consisting of a

hot pink bikini, camel-colored stiletto sandals, oversized bedazzled sunglasses and a Swarovski bellybutton ring.

But Paris' best accessory? Her prized chihuahua, Tinkerbelle, nestled tightly in her Louis Vuitton tote and probably suffering from some form of doggy Stockholm syndrome.

November 2003: In an almost catastrophic merging of worlds, Hilton does the unthinkable. At a press event for the Gillette Venus Razor x Jeremy Scott collaboration (yes, this actually happened), Paris shocked the world by wearing a combination of peanut butter-and-jelly-sized proportions.

Sporting hot pink, low-rise, terrycloth Juicy Couture sweatpants that just hit the lower half of her spray-tanned and toned stomach, Hilton opted to pair these with a shrunk-en, gray Von Dutch tee and matching light pink trucker hat. Did you

scream? I did too.

February 2004: Keep your composure. It is the Grammys after party. Hilton steps out with her new rumored beau, Nick Carter, who is famous for existing as an obligatory member of the Backstreet Boys and being Aaron's brother.

For this look, Paris took a cue from hip-hop giant Cam'Ron and went all pink everything, head-to-toe. And not just pink but pink silk. That's right. Pink silk headband with accompanying pigtails. A pink silk minidress with a ruffled bottom. Even pink silk stilettoes that would make any prima ballerina jealous. What was Nick wearing? Who cares; He is irrelevant.

September 2004: Hilton wears a magenta T-shirt with an artists rendering of HER OWN FACE on it to the Tommy Hilfiger fashion show. Need I say more?

Paris Hilton is not a saint. Paris Hilton is just woman trying to make her mark on the world however she knows how. If you asked any youth on the street today about Paris, they probably wouldn't know who she is, and that is truly a shame.

Now, I'd like to think I was in no way affected by Paris as I blossomed into the woman I am today, but I can't help but think that I have. It is impossible for her not to have influenced me, considering her monopoly on the popular culture market of the burgeoning millennium.

Paris didn't show me how to dress but instead she showed me what not to wear, and isn't that just as important? The stars are, frankly, fashion-blind.

# Trump administration threatens future of the arts

By MIA CAPOBIANCO  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Following the election of the 45th US President, every irksome, privileged (Facebook) friend has slithered out of the woodwork to remind us that some of the best art emerges out of intolerance and persecution: "At least the art is gonna be so good, man." This is one of many displays of shortsighted and reductive, even silly, everything-is-going-to-be-okay reasoning.

To be sure, 45's administration is not easing the process of artmaking. In fact, their proposed budget eliminates the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) (among dozens of other government programs like the Minority Business Development Agency).

This has Republicans creaming their pants, obviously, but the NEA and NEH receive a few thousandths of a percent of the annual budget and have funded such events as a performance paying homage to Pennsylvania's coal mining industry.

Of course, most NEA- and NEH-funded programming doesn't mesh

so well with the GOP platform. Still, countless communities across the U.S. depend on small NEA and NEH grants to make possible local cultural projects. And although private philanthropic organizations provide the bulk of arts- and humanities-related grants, not all projects are attractive to these big spenders.

Neafunded.us provides a list of such projects undertaken in 2016 and their place of origin. The site highlights the richness and diversity of artistic and cultural ventures funded by the NEA. "A Southeast regional mountain dulcimer festival in Monroeville, Alabama" is listed directly beneath "A national tour of the Ragamala Dance Company in Minneapolis, Minnesota," for example.

Unsurprisingly, the proposed budget cuts have troubled many, especially those who fear their communities will be unable to raise funds in the NEA's stead. This is not the first time federal funding of the arts and humanities has been under attack at the hands of conservatives, and it surely won't be the last.

But the rhetoric of 45 and his gang of squares has a larger anti-factual,

anti-intellectual thrust. We have heard from countless reporters and academics who cast aspersions on 45's messaging. And, as always, artists have got some skin in the game, too.

A mural in Lithuania depicting a steamy, salacious Trump-Putin make-out went viral last spring. The kibosh was put on HEWILLNOTDIVIDE-US, Shia LeBeouf's anti-Trump installation at the Museum of the Moving Image in New York, last week following a slew of threats of violence.

In Baltimore, musicians like TT the Artist ("F Trump") and Arts section favorite JPEGMafia ("I Might Vote 4 Donald Trump") have released anti-Trump anthems after anti-Trump anthem. At Hopkins, we heard words of resistance from writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie just last week.

Curators have echoed these sentiments. The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York installed pieces by artists from countries targeted in the travel ban, in place of works from their permanent collection.

The Davis Museum at Wellesley College in Massachusetts has removed or shrouded all works created or donated

by immigrants and has replaced museum labels associated with the pieces with plaques that read "made by an immigrant" or "given by an immigrant," calling attention to what is lost when immigrants are undervalued and their rights under attack.

The Loaisida Center in New York is proceeding with a show by Atomic Culture on immigrant rights and police brutality following the censorship of a piece titled "Storefront Sign for the Ungovernable City."

The piece, originally installed near the center's entrance, which neighbors a major NYPD station, reads "Police Not Welcome," and includes audio from the killing of James Boyd by officers of the Albuquerque Police Department.

45 didn't "inspire" this work; He terrified and enraged creatives and art world glitterati alike who then felt the need to express their disgust.

And let's not forget that those who face discrimination and abuse under 45 are disproportionately those who deal with (and make art about) that bullsh\*t regardless of who's president.



MICHAEL CONNORS/PUBLIC DOMAIN  
Nicole Richie served as the secondary star on Paris Hilton's show.



Lady Gaga reconstructs herself with Joanne

Migos play homecoming following controversy



INSOMNIA CURED HERE/CC-BY-SA-2.0  
John Wayne (left), the Western star, serves as the namesake for Lady Gaga's latest single.

**GAGA, FROM B3**  
empowerment for struggling adolescents.  
Despite the global impact of *Born This Way*, Lady Gaga began to move out of the mainstream with *Artpop*. Her next project was more experimental, and many critics considered it a flop despite its reasonable commercial success.  
*Artpop* saw a distinct break away from Gaga's cultivated style, but its inability to fully shed this stylistic influence undercuts the album's confidence. The project didn't quite find its footing and was without a doubt Gaga's weakest to date.  
However, the album reflected the beginning of the singer's maturation as an artist, from the eclectic opener "Aura" to the reductive ballad "Dope," some of her all-time greatest tracks. With "Dope," Gaga began to realize the full impact of her vocal power when

paired with just a piano, which was hinted at earlier in her career with tracks like "Speechless" and "Brown Eyes."  
Exploring her newly recognized vocal prowess, she released the Grammy award-winning *Cheek to Cheek*, a collaboration with jazz legend Tony Bennett (who himself was known for his hits in the '50s-like "Rags To Riches"). The project marked the most dramatic shift in Gaga's career, which some critics considered an attempt to distance herself from *Artpop*.  
*Cheek to Cheek* accomplished what *Artpop* strived for but ultimately fell short of. It takes a decisive step away from Gaga's eccentric legacy as the queen of synth pop. Fans embraced the new direction because they recognized that it was true to the artist they loved, just in a new, more mature form. Anyone who doesn't

consider *Cheek to Cheek* to be a "real" Gaga album either didn't listen to it seriously or never listened to her previous projects closely enough.  
Gaga returned to music in full force last year with *Joanne*. Despite its undeniable influence from country and rock genres, the album still hints at the synth pop that rocketed her to success. Elements from her previous work can be identified throughout *Joanne*. Tracks like "Million Reasons" follow the reductive style of "Dope," while "Just Another Day" draws from *Cheek to Cheek*'s jazz sound. "Dancin' In Circles" is reminiscent of *The Fame* era, while "Sinner's Prayer" would easily fit on the track list of *Born This Way*.  
The culmination of *Joanne*, and indeed of Gaga's musical career to this point, is "John Wayne," which is easily her most

visually powerful music video. Fans who watch closely can't help but notice Gaga's previous stylistic personas represented in the video. As it progresses, the Gaga of the *Joanne* era kills her personas from *Artpop*, *Born This Way* and *The Fame*.  
With "John Wayne," Gaga demonstrates that she is consciously moving away from her legacy to a new place in music, something she's been trying to do since *Artpop*. The artist shows that she is in full control of her musical evolution, that she is now distinctly separate from her early years and, most importantly, that she is confident in her new direction.  
In many ways, *Joanne* feels like Gaga's swan song, but I don't think she'll be done with music anytime soon. With her ever-changing style, it is impossible to say what her next album will be, but after the mature precision of *Joanne*, it's certain to be equally, if not more, successful. In the meantime, her *Joanne* world tour will visit the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C. this November.  
Lady Gaga's world tour will also hit a number of other venues and locations in the latter half of 2017, including Vancouver and Philly.

**MIGOS, FROM B3**  
performance, my friends and I spoke about whether the group would address the controversy at the performance and whether or not the audience would care.  
For the most part, they didn't, but there murmurs about the scandal within the crowd.  
Yet, when the group hit the stage after a long period of openers (some were actually really good), they were immediately all that mattered. The group didn't hit on many of their deep cuts but rather more of their recent hits.  
One of the first songs they played however was their earlier hit, "Hannah Montana," and the crowd shouted the refrain, "I got molly, I got white, I been trappin', trappin', trappin' all damn night!"  
Another big question about the show was: Would Quavo do any solos? He's seen as the member of the group with the best legs for post-Migos success, and he has a number of features that have seen notable fame.  
The answer to that previous question is yes. He played a song that he featured on.  
Towards the midpoint of their set, they went into "T-Shirt," which was inevitable and amazing.  
The group finished their set with their biggest hit, "Bad and Boujee," which went over about as well as you'd assume it would.  
The crowd got rowdy and jumped with the group as they rapped and shouted out any of the hundreds of ad-libs for the song. Instant success.  
The song went over so well that they played it again, with the crowd maintaining their hype for the song (though it wasn't close to what was there for the song's first go-round).  
The group left the stage without much fanfare. This show was pretty good. Could've been longer, but hey, maybe that's a sign of a good show.  
Or maybe that's a sign of them playing for around 40 minutes?  
Migos play at Echostage in Washington, D.C. on March 12, part of their tour throughout the United States.

I Am Not Your Negro highlights racial divide

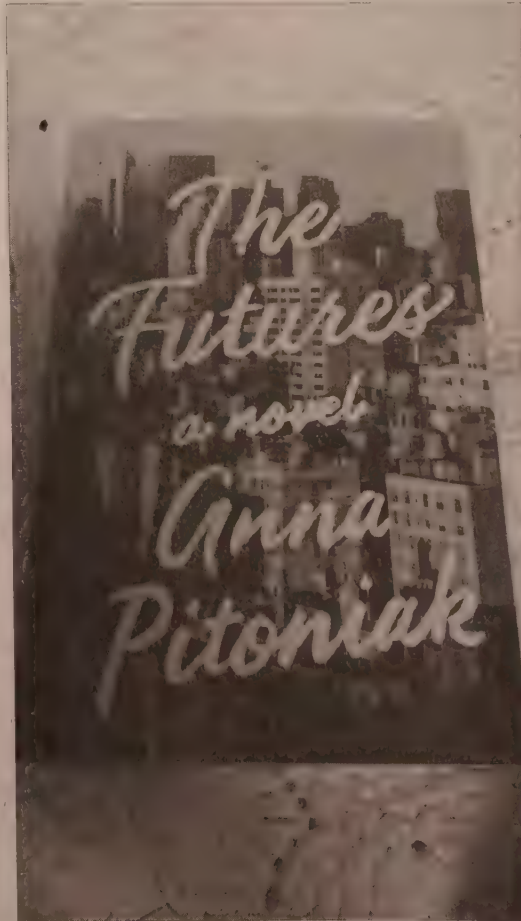
**BALDWIN, FROM B3**  
that common idea that "things are better than they were." Footage from the riots in Ferguson with the militarized police, out in force are juxtaposed against clips of Martin Luther King Jr. marching while rabid white supremacists wield the swastika with pride.  
*I Am Not Your Negro* uses contrast to create unity. It links three different men together using Baldwin's relationship with each and draws parallels between past and present using the words of a genius. The movie is as relevant to the murders of black men and teenagers at the hands of police as it is to the murders of Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and King.  
This relevance is so poignant that it feels like Baldwin is still alive, that *Remember This House* is being written at this very moment, that racial problems in this country have not gone away just because black people can now (contemporary polling laws non-withstanding) vote. *I Am Not Your Negro* reminds you that it is easy to think that things have improved, but that does not mean they actually have.  
I saw the movie at The Charles Theatre, and when it ended, I walked to the bus stop on the corner of Charles Street and North Avenue to wait for the bus back to campus. Overlooking that corner, there is a

billboard. Whatever was advertised on it was evidently torn off at some point, because now the sign is painted a flat grey. Across that grey background, a question is posed: "Whoever died from a rough ride?"  
Beneath that, in smaller print, is written, "The whole damn system." That sign, like the movie, makes a point: Racism is not gone and still infects so many aspects of American life.  
Look at the place where we go to school. Laughing about the dangers of Baltimore City, you are a Hopkins student nestled comfortably in your high-cost intellectual bubble. This is an easy response to an unequal system which you are a part of. Nobody exists separate from their environment, and Hopkins is as much a part of this city as violence, drugs and poverty are.  
The Baltimore we claim and the Baltimore that raised and killed Freddie Gray are not mutually exclusive. The two exist together, but only if you are willing to recognize them as one and the same, to recognize that racial inequality is real and it is a system in which we all participate. To me, that recognition was the end of *I Am Not Your Negro*, and in its attempt to educate viewers about the reality of American life, it is likely unparalleled in its gravity.  
*I Am Not Your Negro* is currently playing locally at The Charles Theatre.  
**Overall rating: 9/10**

**FUTURES, FROM B3**  
do something like this myself," she said.  
Pitoniak was also influenced by her own move to New York City after graduating with an English degree from Yale in 2010.  
"It was this very intense, tumultuous period of transition, and there were a lot of things I was noticing and recording in my mind. It felt like something that I had never been warned about when I was graduating from college, how big of a change it was to go into the real world," Pitoniak said. "You kind of have to experience it for yourself (and that's also something that I wanted to capture), but it's this radical shift in the way your life unfolds because suddenly you're in charge of it."  
There was never any doubt in Pitoniak's mind as to whether or not *The Futures* would be told in a dual-perspective format, alternating between being narrated by Julia and Evan, the couple at the center of the story.  
"I always saw this as a couple's coming of age story. I never saw this as just Julia's story or just Evan's story, but rather the story of their relationship and how it transformed from college to the real world as they endured this particularly fraught moment in history. I knew that I wanted it to be told from both of their perspectives and explaining both sides of the story."

Julia and Evan's relationship is tested as they struggle to navigate unfamiliar professional and personal domains, each facing their own moral dilemmas.  
"It's in periods of stress that you tend to lose that reflexive generosity and that reflexive kindness, and you start to project your own anxieties or worries onto your romantic partner.  
That's what causes the breakdown, and sometimes it's an unfair burden to place on the other person because they're not actually the source of all of the stress and chaos in your life.  
I think Julia and Evan are an example of that. They have known great love for one another and have gone through periods where they were able to be very generous and affectionate with one another, but once they're thrown into the crucible of the 2008 financial crisis, they start to experience this breakdown and the darker side of each of their personalities comes out," Pitoniak said.  
As I read *The Futures*, I was struck by the fact that while many characters made decisions I found cringe-worthy, I was still able to maintain empathy for them. Pitoniak agreed that no one character in the story is the villain or wholly to blame per se.  
"I always find it interesting when people say 'I couldn't stand this char-

acter, she's so unlikeable,' because the truth is we're all unlikeable at times. We all do petty things, we all say hurtful things sometimes to our friends or our family, so there's a little bit of the good guy and the bad guy in each of us. It's very hard for people to accept that about themselves or their loved ones because we tend to want to think that we're okay and we're immune from these things, but it's the only way also to make a character feel real, because everyone is flawed," Pitoniak said.  
Pitoniak's advice for Hopkins students interested in pursuing creative fields is to keep their options open rather than limit themselves. He also advises to follow your gut.  
"I think, in the long-run, there is such an upside to keeping an open mind and remaining flexible, allowing yourself to explore career paths based not on some preconceived notion of what you should be doing or what your friends are doing or what your parents think you should be doing but based on your own development of a moral compass and of interests and of what moves you and excites you," she said. "It's very hard to do that if you lock yourself into a trajectory early on, so you have to learn to listen to yourself."



COURTESY OF KATHERINE LOGAN  
*The Futures* is a book by Anna Pitoniak that she released this January.



# CARTOONS, ETC.

Grave Humor

By Stephanie Herrera



Happy Valentine's Day!

Love, Cartoons, Etc.

*Are you my Appendix?*

*Because I don't know much about you,  
but the strange feeling in my stomach  
makes me wanna take you out*

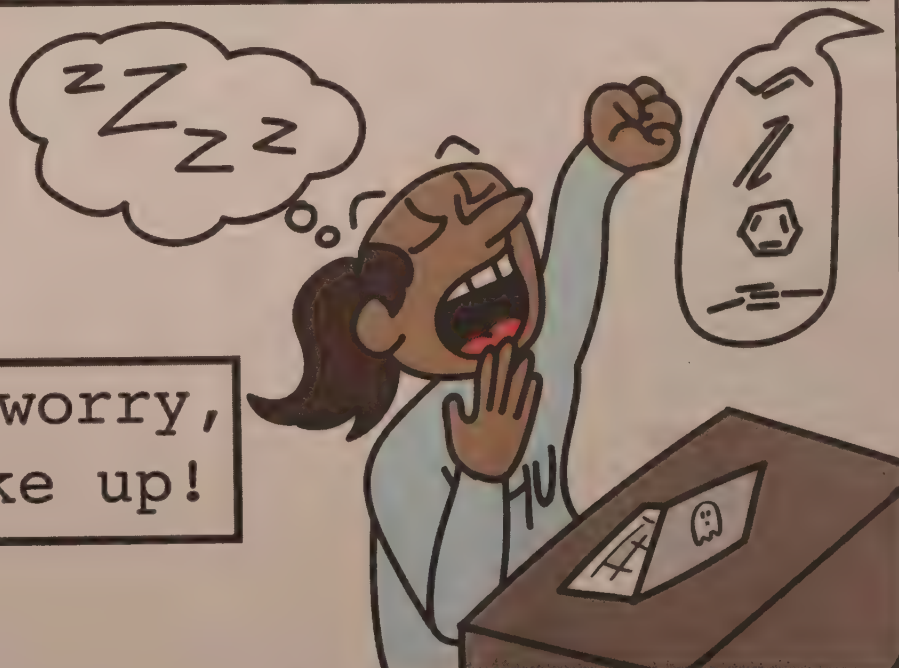
Hey There Kids!

By Stephanie Herrera

**100%****DAD JOKES***"A Vintage Advantage"*

Q. Did you hear about the kidnapping in Organic Chemistry?

A. Don't worry,  
She woke up!



**Submissions wanted for Cartoons, Etc.!**

If you have any questions or have work to submit, please email  
[cartoons@jhunewsletter.com](mailto:cartoons@jhunewsletter.com).



# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Kata table engages students and stroke patients



COURTESY OF SABRINA CHEN

The Kata box, now inside the BLC, was developed by the Kata Design Project.

By CATHY NIE  
Staff Writer

Returning to Brody Atrium after a restful winter break, you might have noticed the absence of the BALAUR Wall. In its place lies a mysterious wooden box with intricate designs carved into its sides. As you approach the box you see that it appears to control the screen in front of it, which displays some video game-like sequence.

This odd contraption is the Kata Interactive Table, designed by the Kata Design Studio to

help patients recovering from stroke and other neurological impairments recover motor capabilities through multi-player gaming. Students and stroke survivors alike can use the table to destress, learn and simply have fun. The Kata Table is one of many innovative devices that are part of the Kata Design Project, which fuses neuroscience knowledge and computing concepts in its technologies to provide better therapeutic treatments for patients.

The *News-Letter* had the opportunity to inter-

view Sayeed Choudhury, the Hodson Director of the Digital Research and Curation Center at the Sheridan Libraries.

*The News-Letter*: Why did the library decide to replace the BALAUR/visual (viz) wall with the Kata Interactive Table rather than incorporate both?

**Sayeed Choudhury**: From the Library's perspective, with both the previous and new viz wall, we hope to create new ways to interact with content, apps, games, etc. while raising awareness of library collections and services. With the previous viz wall, we worked with the Department of Computer Science in a largely experimental manner.

We wanted to learn more about what might engage students as they walked by the wall and how they wanted to interact with the content and games. While we learned a great deal, we also realized that we could do a better job in terms of engaging students, lowering the barrier for use and creating a better software framework that could be extended over time.

We decided it would be better to learn from these lessons and build

a new system rather than incorporate the previous version. Our faculty partner for the previous viz wall, Greg Hager from Computer Science, introduced me to Omar Ahmad from the Kata Lab in the Department of Neurology. Their lab has some compelling ideas about how games can be used to help patients recover and rehabilitate from various types of trauma (such as a stroke).

Ahmad also pointed out that the barrier to using the previous viz wall was too challenging. The leap from walking by to using the gesture-based control system was too much. With the new interactive table and viz wall, students will eventually be able to interact using their mobile device, the touch screen, gestures and (eventually) virtual reality. Additionally it's much easier to incorporate content from students. The first images on the screen saver come from the Homewood Photography student group.

*N-L*: How will the Kata Table add to student life at Hopkins and the library environment?

**SC**: There are two main ways in which I think the interactive table and viz wall will add to student life at Hopkins and the library environment: engagement and awareness. It starts as simply as providing a fun, relaxing way to take a break with the games. Eventually the Kata Lab will develop games that students will play with patients at Hopkins Hospital (and perhaps even

SEE KATA, PAGE B9

## Researchers developing drone for pollination

By SCOTT ZHENG  
Science & Technology Editor

One of the most contentious topics in the world today is the use of drones by the U.S. military to target terrorist threats. However, a different kind of drone may help promote agricultural and economic growth along with maintaining wildlife diversity.

Researchers at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) in Japan are developing a drone that is capable of pollinating the flowers of various fruits and crops, including apples and cucumbers.

Pollination is critical to the reproduction of flowering plants by allowing the parent flower to make seeds that can be released. Flowers are capable of pollinating themselves by releasing pollen that they generate from their stamens, or male reproductive organs, into the pistils, or female reproductive organs.

However, self-pollination only creates genetically identical offspring. To stimulate genetic diversity and improved quality of plants, another mechanism is necessary. Typically this is the role that bees play as they are the major animal species that is capable of carrying pollen from one flower to the next, a process known as cross-pollination.

Unfortunately the bee population has been de-

clining worldwide due to a variety of factors including increased pesticide use and global climate change. As a result, there are significantly fewer natural cross-pollinators that can improve the quality of fruits and crops.

This is where the researchers hope that their drones can potentially help resolve the problem. The drones may be able to serve as a supplement to bees as cross-pollinators.

"We hope this will help counter the problem of bee declines," Eihiro Miyako, one of the lead researchers on the project at AIST, said. "But importantly, bees and drones should be used together."

The prototype for the drone weighs about 15 grams and possesses horsehairs on the ventral, or bottom, side of the machine that resemble the hairy body of a bee. Covering the horsehairs is a sticky gel that pollen sticks to so that the drone can carry pollen from flower to flower.

The drone has been able to cross-pollinate Japanese lilies in the laboratory. In the lab the research team found that the drone was able to land on the flowers without damaging either the stamens or the pistils, which are vital to preserving the genetic alleles and traits of the parent plant in the gene pool. However, the drone is currently only able to be operated manually

SEE DRONE, PAGE B9

## Professor Beer awarded \$1.8 million NIH grant

By ANNA CHEN  
Staff Writer

Early last week, Professor Michael Beer, an associate professor of biomedical engineering at Hopkins, was awarded a \$1.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for his work as part of the Encyclopedia of DNA Elements Consortium (ENCODE), a collaboration of 18 labs striving to catalog all coding and regulatory regions of the human genome.

In an interview with *The News-Letter*, Beer discussed his interests and his work.

Beer has been working at Hopkins for 12 years and was involved in research prior to coming to the University as well. He conducted his post-doctoral research at Princeton University and has extensive experience in computational plasma physics and fusion energy, his previous field of research.

"It soon became clear to me that fusion energy wasn't going to benefit

people in my lifetime," Beer said. "I wanted to do something else... more socially relevant."

As a result, he switched over to the field of biomedical engineering.

Currently Beer's research focuses on the control elements of the genome, such as enhancers, promoters and silencers, that are regions between protein-coding sections of the genome.

Instead of directly being transcribed for protein production, these control elements are shown to have regulatory properties that control cell identity by turning on and off certain genes.

Regulatory regions like enhancers make it possible to switch on the genes that code for a set of proteins specific to a certain cell while switching off the genes that are active in other types of cells in the body. In short such control elements make a cardiomyocyte a cardiomyocyte, and a phagocyte a phagocyte.

In recent years

SEE BEER, PAGE B8

## Obese couples may take longer to get pregnant

By SHERRY SIMKOVIC  
Staff Writer

Biologists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently discovered that it may take between 55 and 59 percent longer for couples in which both partners are obese to get pregnant.

The results were a part of a larger study, the Longitudinal Investigation of Fertility and the Environment (LIFE), which focuses on the correlation between lifestyle, fertility and exposure to environmental chemicals such as for polychlorinated biphenyls and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid. Lifestyle generally refers to factors such as stress, cigarette smoking, caffeine and alcohol usage.

501 couples participated in LIFE from 2005 to 2009. The men were all over 18 years old while the women were aged between 18 and 44 years old. The study followed each couple daily until they got pregnant, or for a year, at most. Women kept journals in which they recorded their monthly menstrual cycles, intercourse and the results of home pregnancy tests.

Once the women got pregnant researchers followed each couple on a monthly basis. To analyze the effects of chemicals on fertility, the researchers looked at the newborn's size and how

long the mother remained pregnant. They discovered that increased exposure to chemicals led to defects such as low semen quality and prolonged wait to become pregnant.

During the study the researchers calculated the body mass index (BMI) for each individual. BMI, a weight-to-height metric, is calculated by dividing one's weight by the square of one's height. A person is underweight if their BMI is less than 18.5. A BMI between 18.5 and 25 is normal weight and between 25 and 30 is overweight. An "obese" BMI is defined as 30 or higher.

Within obesity there are two BMI categories. Class I is typically considered to be a BMI between 30 and 35 and class II is typically considered to be a BMI between 35 and 40. In the LIFE study, researchers divided those with a BMI between 30 and 35 in Class I and those with a BMI between 35 and 40 in Class II.

The team looked at the difference in time it took for couples in the normal weight category and Class II to become pregnant. They looked at 84 normal weight men and 228 normal weight women com-



TONY ALTER / CC-BY 2.0

Doctors must consider weight when counseling couples looking to get pregnant.

pared with 75 men and 69 class II women.

The group calculated the fecundity odds ratio (FOR), a statistical tool that measures the probability of a couple achieving pregnancy during each menstrual cycle relative to their BMIs. They determined that couples in the non-obese group had an FOR of 1, while couples in class II had an FOR of 0.45. The difference in FOR reflects that it took 55 percent longer for the obese couples to get pregnant.

When they took a closer look at lifestyle factors, the FOR of obese couples dropped to 0.41 for a 59 percent increase in average time to get pregnant.

The study is particularly interesting because previous studies have focused exclusively on couples in the general population,

rather than those seeking treatment at infertility clinics.

"A lot of studies on fertility and body composition have focused on the female partner, but our findings underscore the importance of including both partners," said Rajeshwari Sundaram, a senior investigator in the Division of Intramural Population Health Research at NIH's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. "Our results also indicate that fertility specialists may want to consider couples' body compositions when counseling patients."

Sundaram suggested that, in the future, doctors may want to take couples' weight status into account when they're struggling to become pregnant.



COURTESY OF MICHAEL BEER

Beer's research deals with the control elements of the genome.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Population of endangered monkeys discovered



This species of Dryas monkey was discovered in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

By RAYYAN JOKHAI  
Staff Writer

Researchers from the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) have discovered an entirely new population of critically endangered monkeys in one of the most isolated regions on Earth. Utilizing remote sensing cameras and audio recorders, the team is the first to capture footage of the rare, largely unknown monkey population known as the Dryas. The monkey species has long been thought to be solely native to a small area in the Congo basin, a hypothesis that has been recently debunked.

The new population was found in the Lomami National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo in Central Africa. This huge park encompasses approximately 2.2 million acres and is roughly 50 times larger than Washington, D.C. and about the same size as Yellowstone

National Park.

The discovery of the species' previously unknown population is rather peculiar, as field teams from the Lukuru Foundation and Tshuapa-Lomalaba (TL2) Project noticed a hunter with a dead monkey at the edge of the Lomami National Park boundary. Upon further analysis, the team was able to confirm that this was in fact a Dryas monkey. The species itself was first discovered in 1932 and is believed to be critically close to extinction because its tiny population size has been left unprotected by hunting regulations. The species has continued to baffle scientists, as it is so difficult to study in nature.

"The Dryas monkey is extremely cryptic, and we had to think of a creative strategy to observe it in the wild," Kate Detwiler, a primatologist and assistant professor at FAU's Dorothy

F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters anthropology department said. "Dryas monkeys are drawn to dense thickets and flooded areas. When threatened, they quickly disappear into a tangle of vines and foliage, mastering the art of hiding."

Detwiler has collaborated with researchers at the Lukuru Foundation for over eight years and aided in the discovery of the Lesula monkey in 2012, a novel monkey species also seen in the Lomami National Park.

Detwiler has piloted efforts to study the Dryas monkey along with her partner John Hart. Detwiler and Hart have led the TL2 Project team in scouting out the rainforests of the Democratic Republic of Congo for endemic and endangered species.

As you may imagine, capturing video or audio footage of a creature as elusive as the Dryas monkey was no easy feat and required quite a deal of unorthodox thinking on Detwiler's part. She employed 24-year-old Daniel Alempijevic, a master's degree candidate at FAU's Environmental Sciences Program, who learned to climb incredibly tall trees and is the first person to conduct an arboreal trap survey in the TL2 Landscape. Alempijevic spent an entire semester in the Lomami National Park choosing prime locations to plant cameras on the ground, mid-range, and canopy of the forest to find out which elevation Dryas monkeys prefer.

"It was an opportunity of a lifetime. It was an incredible experience to work in the canopy of such a remote site, and to get the first camera-trap videos of an extremely rare and elusive species," Alempijevic said.

Thanks to his efforts, the recordings that the camera traps took are providing scientists with invaluable information regarding the Dryas monkeys, along with other species found in the Lomami National Park. The cameras were able to gather intel on the bonobo, African palm civet and the potto.

The extent of Detwiler's work reaches beyond conservation efforts, as she and her team are trying to elucidate the evolutionary framework of the Dryas monkeys.

Utilizing genomic research to examine the validity of a hypothesis stating that the Dryas are close relatives of the vervet monkey, the Detwiler laboratory has been tirelessly studying the vervet monkey population in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. since 2014. Soon, they hope better to decode the relationship between these two largely unknown species and how they fit within evolution.

Saliva test designed to identify marijuana

By PAIGE FRANK  
Asst. SciTech Editor

Marijuana warranted much media and political attention in recent years. Along with increased attention there has been increased consumption, in particular of edible marijuana.

Unlike other forms of the drug, consumption of edibles is particularly difficult to test for, which is incredibly problematic when it comes to identifying drivers impaired by the drug.

As the legalization of recreational and medical use of marijuana has increased, so too has its consumption. Almost one-third of all marijuana is now consumed in the food or drink form. Following increased usage has been an increase in marijuana-associated accidents.

Statistics show that the presence of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive constituent in marijuana, among weekend, nighttime drivers has increased from 8.6 percent in 2007 to 12.6 percent in 2013 and 2014.

Researchers from the National Institute on Drug Abuse may have solved the detection problem, however, with a new roadside saliva test. The test is designed to test for the presence of THC.

Saliva was chosen as the testing medium due to the failure of breath tests to identify THC accurately. Saliva offers just as fast of a solution, but until now had yet to be studied as a viable option.

The study, led by Marilyn Huestis, was published in the American Association for Clinical Chemistry's (AACC) *Clinical Chemistry* journal.

During the study, frequent marijuana smokers were given brownies laced with exactly 50.6 mg of THC. Saliva and blood samples were collected regularly over the course of 48 hours and analyzed.

Two specific devices designed for roadside

use were used to analyze the samples. The first, the Draeger DrugTest 5000 uses the THC cutoff of 5 ug/L and the second, the Alere DDS2 uses the cutoff 25 ug/L. Liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (a standard laboratory procedure, used for marijuana testing) was used to analyze both the saliva and blood samples at THC cutoff points ranging from 0.2 ug/L to 25 ug/L.

From the various results, researchers were able to determine that cutoffs greater than or equal to 1 ug/L and greater than or equal to 2 ug/L led to the highest number of accurate results. Accuracy was determined by initially screening subjects before evaluating the results of the confirmation testing.

Ultimately, Huestis' team was able to prove that while saliva testing devices need lower cutoff points to maximize accuracy, they are viable for roadside testing. While analyzing the samples, the team was also able to look at the effect of time on the concentration of THC in the saliva and blood.

Surprisingly, they found that blood and saliva concentrations did not correlate with one another and that saliva was found to be a more viable medium for roadside testing.

"For the first time, we compared performance of on-site oral fluid devices following controlled edible cannabis administration," Huestis said, according to a press release. "A reliable conversion between blood and oral fluid THC concentrations does not exist [...] Therefore, we recommend oral fluid screening either with the DT5000 or DDS2 followed by oral fluid confirmation. Rapid and sensitive on-site oral fluid devices offer advantages for roadside drug screening, allowing trained officers to presumptively identify drug use, without lengthy delays associated with blood collection."

BME professor awarded for DNA encyclopedia

BEER, PAGE B7

Scientists have observed that there is a large heritability to most human diseases. This means that when someone has a disease, the chance of a person in their family having that same disease is significantly higher than the chance of any random person having the disease. Clearly, such a disease has a genomic component.

After delving deeper, researchers were able to map out where many of those heritability components lie in the genome. Surprisingly, almost 95 percent of the variants associated with increased risk of diseases such as stroke, heart disease, Alzheimer's and some autoimmune diseases are located in certain parts of the genome that do not code for protein. Instead, these variants lie between protein-coding genes in regulatory regions such as enhancers.

Traditional biological techniques have shown a lot about how enhancers work. However, since the sequencing of the genome by the Human Genome Project in 2001, there have been increased attempts at an orthogonal approach that aims to study the entire genome all at once. The type of data that are generated by such large-scale approaches require computational techniques and machine learning in order to analyze the sequence features of the 100,000+ control

regions and how these properties allow them to turn on and off genes.

The main biological goal of Beer's research is to understand how enhancers work, and his lab strives to accomplish this by developing the computational and mathematical methods necessary for researchers like themselves to better understand how enhancers specify cell states and how variations in control regions contribute to common human diseases.

Using these techniques, Beer and his collaborators in the ENCODE project can create models and apply them to explain control element variants and disease heritability. For example, by training their models on a representative data set of enhancers in neurons they can learn what binding sites are important for enhancer function in neurons and whether any detected variants associated with an increased risk for schizophrenia.

When asked to describe his goals for the future, Beer described his hopes to move his research to a deeper and more complex level; Instead of investigating how variants in enhancers change their activity in the genome, he wants to explore how they specifically change cell and tissue behavior and thus the behavior of the entire biological circuit of the human body.

However, he also main-

tained that the future is difficult to predict and that he is flexible, willing to go whichever way his research takes him.

"The field moves so rapidly, no one knows what's going to happen next. You don't know where the next problem is going to lie," he said.

But he is certain that one of his goals is to continue being at the forefront of computational techniques as well as

the experimental methods involved in observing cell interactions and detecting enhancers.

He wants to stay on the interface of medical research, biochemistry, genomics and the exciting new techniques of machine learning.

"What I've learned from all my mentors and advisers is that the intersection of fields is where progress really gets made," Beer said.

Protein-based drug delivery system developed

By SABRINA CHEN  
Science & Technology Editor

Your mom places a cockroach-sized pill on the table and tells you to swallow it. You take a deep breath, take a large gulp of water and pop it into your mouth. But no matter what you do, you can't seem to send the medicine down. Sometimes, it doesn't even make it past the back of your tongue. Other times, it gets stuck in your throat and causes you to gag.

Pharmaceutical scientists professor at South Dakota State University Om Perumal has found what he thinks is the solution for this swallowing problem. Perumal is also the co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer at Transzderm Solutions, a product research and development company that focuses on using plant-based systems in the cosmetic and pharmaceutical markets.

Perumal is also using a corn protein-based drug delivery method to help children take medicine more easily. Instead of having to swallow a

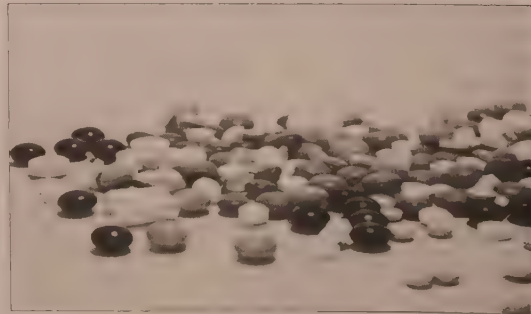
pill, Perumal creates oral suspension or chewable forms of medicine.

"Dissolving a drug that is not water soluble can result in a thick, uninviting suspension," Perumal said, in a press release. "Using an excipient, such as high amounts of alcohol, to dissolve the drug is out of the question for young children."

Instead, Perumal uses zein, a protein found in dried distillers grain, to coat medicines. The zein nanoparticles are about 500 times smaller than the diameter of a piece of human hair. Not only do the nanoparticles protect the drug, an additional layer of milk protein masks the taste of a drug and makes it easier to take.

"Our core technology is the same, but we've refined it and are finding new ways to utilize it," Perumal said in a press release.

Perumal is starting with target medications antiretrovirals and a drug that is used to treat neuroblastoma, a cancer that affects children up to 10 years old.



Coating drugs in a layer of milk protein makes them easier to swallow.

Perumal said that targeting antiretrovirals is important because children who are HIV positive have to take these medications for a lifetime. On the other hand, the cancer drug is important because there is not a pediatric drug formula currently available.

Other forms of milk proteins like casein, lactoferrin and lactoglobulin may also be used in this drug-delivery system, according to Perumal.

One concern, however, is that the drug should not be released in the food matrix and instead should be absorbed in the intestinal tract.

Perumal is currently doing further research to test the drugs in the human body, using simulated gastric and intestinal fluid.

In 2002, the federal government passed the Best Pharmaceutical for Children's Act to provide companies like Transzderm opportunities to do research and develop drugs made specifically for children.

"Drugs behave differently in children than adults," Perumal said. "We are developing formulas customized for children that are safe and can be flexible based on the age of the patient."



## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Checklist: how to find Neuroscience research



Duy Phan  
The Brain Wave

**N**euroscience has become the new "hot" thing. The best way to get involved with the neuroscience field is to engage directly in hypothesis-driven research. If you walk around on campus, you are bound to run into at least one person who is currently doing research in a neuroscience lab, even if the person is not formally a neuroscience major. It's a Hopkins thing.

Here is a list of four essential things that you should know if you are considering doing neuroscience research this semester at Hopkins.

1. The Hopkins neuroscience department was one of the first neuroscience departments established in the country. It's true. Named after its founder, the Solomon H. Snyder Department of Neuroscience was established in 1980. Many important neuroscience discoveries have come out of this department, such as the discovery of opiate receptors in the brain.

The point here is that our neuroscience department has historically been and is still one of the strongest basic science departments in the world. If you came to Hopkins to do neuroscience research, you have indeed come to the right place.

2. Neuroscience is not all about the brain: The word "neuroscience" typically conjures up images of the mysterious brain. The brain is definitely the least understood organ in the human body, and much of neuroscience research is focused on understanding how the brain works.

However, you need to remember that neuroscience is really ultimately about the nervous system, which also includes non-brain parts such as the spinal cord and autonomic nerves.

While the brain is thought to be the center where most of your information is processed and your human consciousness arises, the non-brain parts are also needed to sense outside input and deliver this information to the brain.

The brain also exerts control over the non-brain parts to carry out behavioral and physiological responses to an outside stimulus, such as telling motor neurons in the spinal cord to fire in a certain way so that you can catch a moving ball.

3. There are three main branches of neuroscience: These branches are cellular and molecular neuroscience, systems neuroscience and cognitive neuroscience.

As implied by the name, cellular and molecular neuroscience looks at the nervous system at the microscopic level. When you think of drugs and how they interact with the brain

through specific chemical receptors, you are mostly thinking about cellular and molecular neuroscience. If you like cellular and molecular biology, you will probably enjoy cellular and molecular neuroscience.

Systems neuroscience is concerned with how neurons are wired together and how activity within this neural wiring leads to function. The term "neural circuit" is most often associated with this field of neuroscience. You might like systems neuroscience if you like studying anatomy. Systems neuroscience has also attracted mathematicians and physicists who employ their computational tools to decode the logic of neural activity.

Cognitive neuroscience focuses on how mental processes are computed by the brain. Much of cognitive neuroscience research involves making human subjects do a variety of mental tasks, such as memorizing a list of numbers, and then imaging the subjects' brain activity while they perform the task.

4. Taking the Nervous System I and II courses will help tremendously. Nervous System I and II, taught by Stewart Hendry and Haiqing Zhao, are some of the best courses any Hopkins student can take, period. This is especially true for aspiring neuroscientists. These courses cover all the fundamental knowledge you need to go into any field of neuroscience. Moreover Hendry and Zhao are amazing professors.

## Flower-pollinating drone being developed

DRONE PAGE B7

and has yet to be field-tested, raising concerns about its viability.

But the team hopes that in the future, the drone combined with artificial intelligence and cameras, will be able to pollinate flowers automatically.

"In the future, the pollen drones could definitely be viable, but I think that the drones are only a temporary solution to the problem," junior Carolyn Duman said. "They don't address the problem of the bees disappearing, which is a problem in biodiversity by itself."

Ecologists bring into question whether or not the drones are a good

economic investment for farmers.

"If you think about the almond industry for example, you have orchards that stretch for kilometers and each individual tree can support 50,000 flowers," Saul Cunningham, ecologist at the Australian National University in Canberra, said. "So the scale on which you would have to operate your robotic pollinators is mind-boggling."

However, bees are responsible for pollinating about \$15 billion worth of crops in the U.S. alone. Without bees or an adequate substitute like the drones, the economic and biodiversity burden may be unbearable.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

The rapidly declining bee population raises agricultural concerns.

## BALAU wall replaced by Kata box in Brody

KATA PAGE B7

other hospitals). While the students might be playing for fun, they will be helping patients recover and rehabilitate on the other end.

While the table and wall aren't being used for games, the library and others will have an opportunity to showcase digital content, events, exhibits, etc. From a service perspective, we imagine that while you're viewing library collections, we could also display information about librarians who could help students use those collections and discover other relevant content. We will create digital versions of the physical exhibits you see within Brody and MSEL.

Student groups like the Homewood Photography club will be able

to share their images, and groups of students and faculty may be able to use the displays for classes or to showcase research results.

All of these efforts will hopefully raise awareness about all that the library has to offer in the digital realm, what other students are doing on campus and the amazing research and treatment taking place at the School of Medicine and Hopkins Hospital. Given the new software framework, we have a much greater capability and flexibility in moving the displays in new directions.

N-L: Will the Kata Interactive Table stay at the Library permanently?

SC: While the library manages the space, we very much feel that the students "own" it. Brody

was created very much in mind with student needs. Assuming the table and wall meet the goals and students find value in it, we will keep in the Library permanently.

If not, then we'll consider how we might adapt it or — as we did with the previous system — consider taking it down.

These are very much early days with the new system but we think it has a lot of potential. We welcome feedback and participation from students. With the new table and viz wall, we hope that students will partner with us in its usage and further development.

The News-Letter also had the opportunity to speak to students who used the Kata Interac-

tive Table. Some students are interested in the idea that the box may eventually have medical implications.

"It seems really innovative, and I'd like to know more about how it helps stroke survivors recover," freshman Laurent Park said.

Other students are looking forward to seeing the box be implemented beyond Brody Atrium.

"I think it's amazing that Hopkins is so forward-thinking even in the way it uses student spaces," freshman Sinja Fan said. "Perhaps in the future, innovative technology like the Kata Interactive Table will become common in public spaces, truly connecting, entertaining and engaging students and community members alike."

## Phage research may provide cure for antibiotic-resistant bacteria

By ELAINE CHIAO  
Staff Writer

It might be difficult to imagine essentially inanimate objects having a sense of brain and self, but this is virtually the case for viruses: Viruses occupy a gray area. They are generally believed to hover between living and nonliving. Their main purpose for existence is to invade hosts as a sort of intracellular parasite.

Recently researchers at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center found that viruses, just like humans, have a system of competition as well as a criterion of selection.

Viruses, specifically the lambda phages that have been put under scientific investigation, possess a kind of decision-making mechanism. A phage is essentially a type of virus that chooses to replicate inside a bacterium.

Although scientists have been aware of the existence of phages for nearly 100 years, it wasn't until recently that they began to discover that phages have the potential to attack virulent bacterial species that have become resistant to antibiotics.

This means that viruses could provide a new solution to antibiotic-resistant bacterial diseases. The diversity and vast amount of phages will

however contribute to the complexity behind scientists' efforts to find a cure for bacterial infections and illnesses.

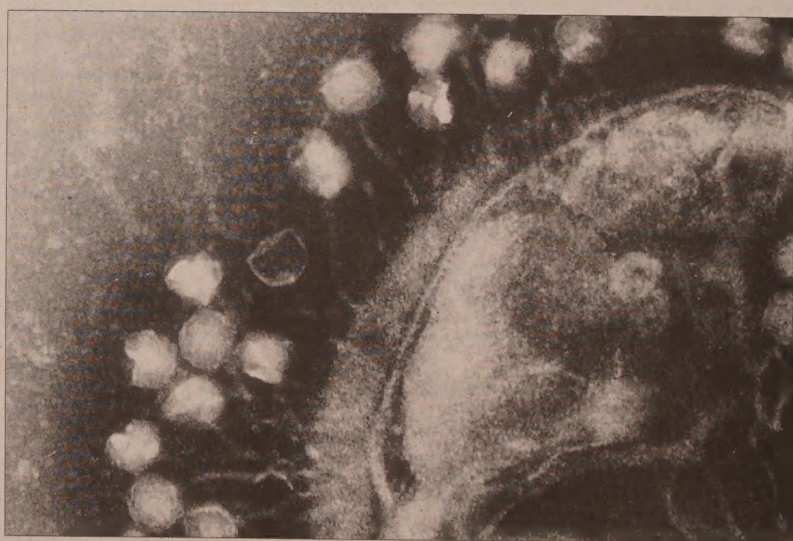
In the journal *Nature Communications*, Lanying Zeng and her team at Texas A&M AgriLife Research published a paper detailing how the lambda phage chooses to attack its host, the *E. coli* bacterium. The lambda phage's tendency to destroy *E. coli* bacteria causes the two species of the phage to be ideal research targets for Zeng's team.

Jimmy Trinh, a graduate student working in Zeng's lab, also studies this interaction closely. Using a four-color fluorescence report system that he designed on his own, Trinh is able to accurately track the lambda phage down to each individual virus.

This technique has been proven useful, especially given the lambda phage's microscopic size that oftentimes makes it difficult to study. The four-color fluorescence reporter system gave the team insight about phage evolution.

"From the evolutionary point of view, the phages want to optimize their own fitness or survival," Zeng said in a press release.

In addition, Trinh's method was joined by Gábor Balázs's computational techniques. Balázs currently works as a bio-



GRAHAM BEARDS/CC-BY-SA-3.0

Phages exhibit decision-making processes that makes them appear more intelligent than we thought.

medical engineer and collaborator at Stony Brook University, a private research institution located in Stony Brook, New York. Trinh's and Balázs's combined efforts allowed them to achieve the primary goal of studying the stimulus or motive that causes phages to destroy their host cells, as well as the phages' interactions between one another.

"Each phage DNA within the cell is capable of making a decision," Zeng said. "We want to know how they make a decision, whether one is more dominant than the other, whether they have any interactions and compete to see who will win, or whether they compromise."

The discoveries made

using the four-color fluorescence report system were not what the scientists had initially expected. They found out that lambda phages, despite being far less complicated organisms than humans, also know how to compete or cooperate depending on the situation.

The complexity behind phages' decision-making can be further explained through their reproductive strategies. The lytic and lysogenic cycles are two ways in which viruses reproduce.

In the lytic cycle, the virus replicates within the host cell but eventually destroys it completely by bursting it open. In the lysogenic cycle, however, the virus

is capable of coexisting with its host by inserting its DNA and integrating it into part of the bacterial genome. According to the scientists, the lytic cycle is typically associated with competition while the lysogenic cycle is associated with cooperation.

The discoveries pioneered by Zeng's team rebuked the stereotypical view of viruses as unintelligent infectious agents.

Currently, Zeng's team is still seeking to understand more about the viral decision-making process on a cellular level so that their discoveries can potentially be integrated into the cure for antibiotic-resistant bacterial strains in the future.



## SPORTS

# Swarthmore defeats Jays in basketball

M. BASKETBALL, FROM B12 and sophomore Michael Gardner countered with four points of their own, bringing it to an 11-point game.

Unfortunately, the Jays' run was quickly quelled, as the Garnet's guard Cam Wiley answered with eight points of his own to start an 18-0 run for Swarthmore. Swarthmore now carried a 29-point lead, putting the game even further out of reach for the visiting Blue Jays. Freshman Harry O'Neil would end the scoreless run for Hopkins with four points, putting the Jays behind 65-40.

The final six minutes of the game was slowed by fouls on both sides; The Garnet and the Blue Jays combined to go 11-15 from the free throw line while only making one field goal in the remainder of the game.

The tough loss certainly left the Blue Jays bitter.

"The game was definitely a reminder that we cannot take the post-season for granted. We know that if we take care of business at home this week, we will have a strong finish to the reg-

ular season," freshman guard Mac Rowan said. "We can make a push to try and win the Centennial Conference. Until then, we just have to play each game one at a time and focus on going 1-0 in each game."

Gardner led Hopkins with 15 points, while graduate student forward Sam Gordon led the team in rebounds with five. Leading all scorers was Swarthmore's Cam Wiley with 25 points, 15 of which came from beyond the three-point line.

The loss was the Blue Jays' first to the Garnet since 2011. Nonetheless, the Jays remain 113-37 all-time against the Garnet. The Jays now sit tied with the Dickinson College Red Devils for second place in the Centennial Conference standings.

However, Dickinson owns the tiebreaker against the Blue Jays, as the Red Devils swept the season series 2-0. Hopkins finishes the regular season against the Haverford College Fords. The game is set to take place at Goldfarb Gymnasium on Saturday, Feb. 18 at 1:00 p.m.

# For Spaniards, soccer is the national pastime



Andrew Johnson  
Sportpinion

Going abroad to Spain this intersession, I was able to immerse myself in the language, the music and the culture. It was a breathtaking experience, one that was full of personal growth and enrichment, exciting adventure, new friends and fond, lasting memories.

Part of this cultural immersion included a live fútbol match. I had never been to a professional soccer game and, luckily for me, Real Madrid happened to be hosting a game the same weekend we were scheduled to visit the city. We excitedly bought tickets and entered the cavernous stadium, ready for a dazzling sports experience.

In Spain, fútbol is king. Real Madrid and FC Barcelona are the nation's two best teams, and both are consistently

two of the best teams in the entire world. Spain is also home to arguably the two best players in the entire world: Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, the pair of scoring maestros who meet each year in a rivalry game that is simply known as El Clásico.

Madrid and Barcelona also spend substantially more money on players than any other team in La Liga (the League). Consequently, the race for the crown most years is dominated by these two teams. However, teams like Valencia CF, Sevilla FC and Atlético Madrid have become very competitive in recent years, adding some additional intrigue to the League.

Nevertheless, disparities in spending and the lack of a salary cap continue to be issues which undermine the competitive balance of Europe's elite soccer associations.

Barcelona and Madrid would not be squaring off during our visit, probably a good thing for us. Tickets for that game would have reached into the hundreds or even thousands of euros. Instead, we were treated to a matchup between the home team Real Madrid and Granada CF.



CC BY-SA 3.0 LAURAHALE  
Midfielder Gareth Bale of Real Madrid in action on the pitch.

The foes from Andalusia were no match for Ronaldo and Real Madrid, who treated their thousands of devout supporters to a myriad of beautiful goals. Each time Madrid would bring the ball down the field on the offensive, you could hear and feel the intensity in the stadium rise.

The atmosphere crescendoed with each precise pass, peaking as the attacker mustered a strike toward the net. In the first 45 minutes of play, we were treated to four Real Madrid goals. With each ball that landed in the back of the net, the crowd rose to their feet in a flurry and their roars echoed throughout the walls of the stadium, punctuated by the shout of "GOOOOOL" from the announcer.

When there was a misfire or the Granada goalie made a brilliant save, the sound of 80,000 deflated groans were audible. But when

it all came together, the atmosphere was just indescribable. There is a reason they call it "the beautiful game."

Madrid dominated the flow and tempo of the action, barely giving Granada a chance to gain control of the ball. In the first half, Granada was only able to get off a single shot, which sailed wide of the net.

Leading 4-0 at the start of the second half, Madrid opened with a quick strike to make it 5-0. The score stood for the duration of the game and officially put any chance of redemption out of reach for the visiting team. The last 30 minutes of the contest lacked the energy and excitement of the first hour, but we weren't complaining.

By the end of the 90 minutes, we had been treated to some dazzling fútbol. A dominant win for the home team, filled with brilliant, if not one-sided, soccer.

# Men's and women's track shines in Boston

By EMILIE HOFFER  
Sports Editor

After cancelled flights and over a foot of snow, the Hopkins Blue Jays were undeterred by the Boston weather as they put together perhaps one of their best team performances on the track.

Nearly every athlete recorded a personal best at the Boston University David Hemery Valentine Indoor Invitational, as the team did not appear to be at all affected by the eight-hour train ride up to Boston. Instead, the Jays seemed to be in peak shape.

"Coach Bobby calls the BU track magical," senior Shannon Martello said. "The expectation of running fast was there from the beginning and I think everyone used that mentality to our advantage."

The Blue Jays certainly lived up to those expectations. To start, sophomore Felicia Koerner, who has been breaking school and Conference records, solidified her dominance in D-III. After posting the ninth-fastest 5K time in NCAA D-III

history earlier this season, Koerner continued to break records up in Boston.

Crossing the line in a time of 9:24.24 for the 3K race, Koerner not only smashed her own personal record in the event by 25 seconds but also downed the Hopkins all-time record by a full 10 seconds.

She broke the Centennial Conference 3K record with her time. This marks the second-best performance ever in D-III history.

Koerner's performance landed her a sixth place finish in a field composed of nearly 140 athletes from all divisions and even a number of unattached runners for established running clubs. For the fourth time this season, Koerner was named the Centennial Conference Track Athlete of the Week.

Joining Koerner in the 3K, with an impressive race of her own, was senior Tess Meehan, who crossed the line in 9:47.79 for a personal best in the event and a top-30 finish. Meehan trails her team-

mate in the Centennial Conference rankings in second and now holds the fourth fastest time in school history.

The distance crew continued to prove their fitness later on in the 5K race, led by sophomore Natalia LaSpada, who crossed the line in 17:32. Meanwhile, freshman Samantha Levy and sophomore Ellie Clawson remained on their teammate's heels to clock personal-best times in the event, finishing 17:38 and 17:39, respectively.

The women also proved dominant in the middle distance races, with personal bests in nearly every event. In the mile race, Martello led the Jays, crossing the line in 5:07 to improve upon her career-best by eight full seconds.

The senior was exhausted after the last minute change in flights, but thankfully all the athletes had enough time to rest before their races in Boston.

"It was nice because even though people were napping throughout the day, everyone was able to get up and be at the track for the majority of the races," Martello said. "Overall, I think we did a great job of not letting the last minute changes affect us."

In the 800-meter race, a punishing test of both speed and endurance, sophomore Erin Brush ran the fastest time by a Blue Jay this season. Crossing the line in 2:17, Brush improved upon her previous mark by nearly five seconds, a considerable amount for a race that is just over two minutes long. The sophomore now leads the Conference in the event.

The men were no less impressive than the women this weekend in Boston. In the field, freshman Matthew Su broke his own school record by 0.10 meters in

the long jump, becoming the first Blue Jay to break 7.0 meters. With his 7.04-meter jump, Su finished sixth overall in the event and leads the Conference over his fellow teammate, senior Andrew Bartnett.

Meanwhile, on the track, senior Jesse Poore broke the school record in the 400-meter dash, clocking 49.43 in the event.

Poore improved on his previous season best by .51 of a second and topped the Hopkins record by 0.43. Poore leads the Conference in the event followed by Bartnett, who clocked a 50.03 in Boston.

As for the middle distance, the mile was the event to watch, as every single Blue Jay competing ran a personal best in the event.

Leading the way was senior Tom Pavarini, who was best in his heat and clocked a remarkable 4:14 at the finish. Pavarini now holds the second best time in Hopkins history.

Six more Blue Jays would follow Pavarini's lead and record personal bests in the event. Sophomores Scott Pourshalchi and Kevin Peters joined Pavarini, dipping under the 4:20 mark to run 4:18 and 4:19, respectively.

The Blue Jays' performance in Boston indicates great things to come in the weeks leading up to conferences.

"Our goal is always to win both the men's and women's titles," Martello said about the Centennial Conference Championship. "But since that is expected at this point, a lot of people are going to try and lower their personal bests further and push each other to qualify for Nationals."

This weekend, the Blue Jays travel to Haverford College to compete in the Keough Invitational on Feb. 18.

# Wrestling slumps in Conference tournament

WRESTLING, FROM B12 goal of All-American status. There is always room for improvement, so I try to focus on that and fine tune my skills. Everyone in the Conference is constantly working to improve, so I continue to do that as well," Forman said.

Along with Forman's title, junior Tommy Grifa earned a third-place finish for the Blue Jays. Grifa had a strong start to the tournament, with an 11-4 victory against Muhlenberg College's Ben Peck. Grifa fell to first-seeded junior Zach Wilhelm of Stevens Institute of Technology in the semifinal match.

Grifa bounced back with a victory against McDaniel College's Clint Wright in the consolation semifinals. He finished his Conference Championship performance with a 9-3 win over Washington & Lee University's junior Zachary Papin to seal the third-place finish.

With Forman's wrestling career slowly coming to an end, he wants to leave a legacy of hard work and growth.

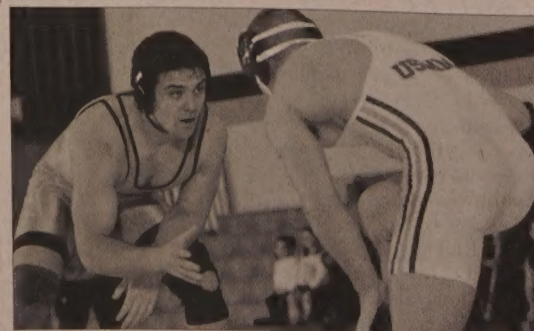
"I wasn't anything special when I came to

Hopkins nearly four years ago, I was just a kid who knew how to throw a headlock and not much else," Forman said. "But I spent the four years working hard and listening to my coaches and teammates whenever they had advice for me, and I continued to get better. I plan on cementing this legacy by achieving All-American status at the NCAA Championships in a month to truly show that hard work pays off."

Forman acknowledged the importance of his coaches and his teammates to his journey.

"I want to thank my coaches for always believing in me and working with me, and I want to thank my teammates for supporting me and building me up everyday," Forman said. "Although this weekend was an individual achievement, I personally feel it was a team effort because I could not have done it without every single one of my teammates and coaches."

The Jays will return to the mat on Saturday, Feb. 25 for the NCAA East Regional Championships.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM  
Hopkins wrestling fell short in the tournament this past weekend.

## Errata: Feb. 9 Edition

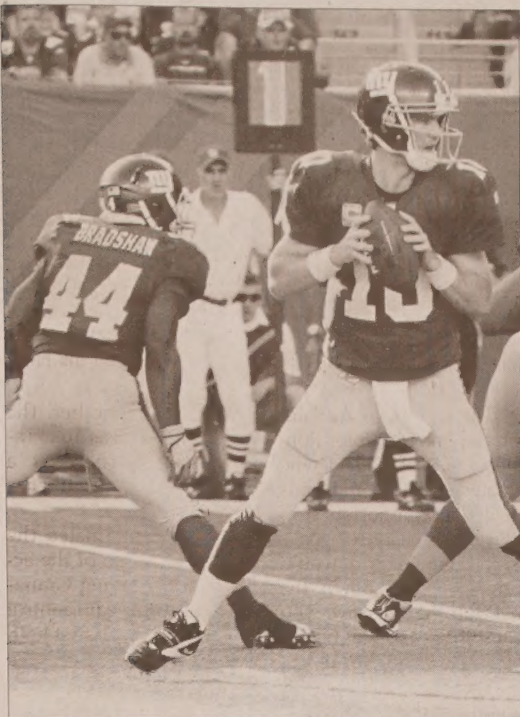
In the Feb. 9, 2017 edition of *The News-Letter*, the article "AOTW: Lillian Scottt" the athlete's last name was spelled incorrectly. Her last name is spelled Scott.

*The News-Letter* regrets this error.



SPORTS

Way too early: NFC season predictions



MIKE LIZZI/CC BY 2.0  
DanLand predicts that the Giants will top the NFC in the coming season.

NFC, FROM B12  
would indicate, to rebound from a disappointing, injury-filled 2016 season and win the Division in 2017.  
In both the North and the West, expect the standings to look very similar to how they did this past season. Up north, the Packers are the cream of the crop. Green Bay should be considered the odds-on favorite. Year in and year out, Aaron Rodgers is lined up behind center and playing at the superstar caliber that he has performed at for nearly a decade.  
Behind Green Bay, expect satisfactory but unspectacular seasons from the Detroit Lions and the Minnesota Vikings. The Lions benefited from a relatively weak schedule in 2016, a luxury that they will not have in 2017.  
Quarterback Matthew Stafford will do all that he can to position Detroit for a playoff push, but he simply does not have enough weapons around him to guide his team to a wild card spot.  
The Vikings' 2016 season was a tale of two parts: After winning their first five games, they proceeded to lose eight of their final eleven contests. Expect the Vikings to find a middle ground somewhere in between these two extremes and to end up right around .500 again.  
The Bears are in full-on rebuilding mode and should be happy with a six or seven wins next season. Chicago is likely moving on from Jay Cutler, which means they need to find their starting quarterback of the future.  
In addition, wide receiver Alshon Jeffery, the most talented player on the Bears' roster, is hitting free agency and could very well have a new home for next season. The Bears are capable of avoiding another 3-13 debacle, but their chances of finishing with a winning record are slim to none.  
Out west, the Seattle Seahawks, led by the likes of Russell Wilson and Richard Sherman, will be the Division champion by default, since the Arizona Cardinals, San Francisco 49ers and Los Angeles Rams do not fit the mold of legitimate contenders. The Cardinals will go as far as Carson Palmer takes them.  
Unfortunately for Arizona, if last year is any indicator, the 37 year old's durability is a major question mark going forward. The 49ers and Rams are also unlikely to improve from last year. San Francisco is devoid of offensive and defensive talent, which will make Kyle Shanahan's job very difficult.  
Los Angeles has some solid young pieces, but with unproven coach Sean McVay, who will be the youngest coach in history, at the helm the Rams will require some time to develop.  
Last but not least, it is in the East Division that I think the NFC champion will emerge. And, no, I am not talking about the Dallas Cowboys.  
Yes, I think they will snag a wild card spot, but I expect them to struggle. Dallas will have a difficult schedule in 2017, which will result in a slight regression from its impressive 2016 campaign. Additionally, the Cowboys are betting against history, as there has not been a repeat champion in the NFC East since the 2001-2004 Eagles.  
So which team do I have coming out on top this season?  
The Washington Redskins are out because have too many questions surrounding Kirk Cousins' future with the team, and they disappointed in some pivotal games late last season. The Philadelphia Eagles also do not fit the bill of a Super Bowl contender, as the overall strength of their roster is mediocre at best.  
That leaves the New York Giants, who, with a plethora of offensive weapons, including Odell Beckham Jr., Sterling Shepard, and the promising, young running back Paul Perkins, to complement Eli Manning and a sound defense, should be in position to reach their third Super Bowl since 2007.  
Some teams simply know how to win when it matters most, and Eli and the Giants will once again prove that they fit that mold. As always, though, their road past their Conference foes in the coming season will be an arduous one.

By GAURAV VERMA  
Sports Editor

Two years ago, junior midfielder Joel Tinney electrified Homewood Field with a standout performance in his rookie year as a Blue Jay, tallying 28 goals. He formed a young core with classmates Shack Stanwick and Patrick Fraser to complement now-graduated veterans such as Holden Cattoni, Ryan Brown and Wells Stanwick in one of the most dangerous attacks in D-I lacrosse.

After an initially slow start, the team caught fire and won the Big Ten title, knocking off formidable opponents such as the Virginia Cavaliers and the Syracuse Orange, en route to a Final Four appearance.

Although the Jays would fall in a nail biter to archrival University of Maryland Terps in the semifinals, the team looked poised for future success.

The following season, however, Tinney was suspended for the entire year for a violation of NCAA rules. Subsequently, the

Jays slumped to an 8-6 record overall, and, while they did make the NCAA Tournament, they were handily defeated by the Brown University Bears in the first round.

This season, Tinney has returned to the field as the Jays look to avenge last season's disappointing end.

Their quest to play deep into May has gotten off to a convincing start: the Jays soundly defeated the Navy Midshipmen and the UMBC Retrievers in the opening week of play. Tinney is currently tied for second with Stanwick in scoring, only behind senior attack Wilkins Dismuke.

Perhaps the highlight of the season so far has been Tinney's successful hidden ball trick in the game against Navy, a play that instantly went viral, shared

widely across the internet and even making the ESPN SportsCenter Top-10.

The play consisted of Tinney faking a pass to senior midfielder John Crawley. With the defense and goalie focused on de-

fending Crawley, Tinney instead moved towards goal and fired a shot on net without anyone knowing until it was too late.

For the strong start to his return this season and his hidden ball trick goal, *The News-Letter* has named Tinney its Athlete of the Week. He was kind enough to answer some of our questions.

*The News-Letter:* How does it feel to be back on the field after missing the last season?

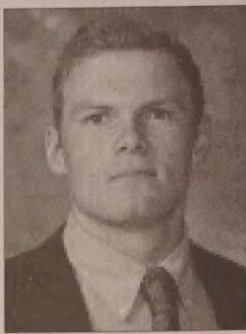
**Joel Tinney:** Being back on the field is great. Last year was tough, but I have learned from it. My team and my family helped me become a better person and player because of it.

*N-L:* How did you plan and execute the hidden ball trick against Navy?

**JT:** There was no planning behind the hidden ball. It is a little creativity we use to kind of get the ball moving and John [Crawley] just happened to know exactly what I was thinking, and he sold it perfectly.

*N-L:* How has the team coped with losing key players from last season, such as Ryan Brown and Holden Cattoni?

**JT:** Losing those guys is tough, but we are never just about one player. We seem to be meshing well; Freshmen are stepping



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM  
Junior midfielder Joel Tinney.

up in big ways to help the team. Offensively, it is about our unit and following the game plan that Coach [Bobby] Benson has put in place.

*N-L:* What are your personal goals for the rest of the season?

**JT:** Personally, for the rest of the season, I just want to continue to contribute all over the field in anyway I can. I also want to get back to the Final Four like we did two years ago.

*N-L:* What are some of the things you as a team need to improve on from last year to make a deep playoff run?

**JT:** As a team there are always things we can do to get better, whether it is improving our fundamentals or our game plan for an opponent. It is important we continue to improve each week in order to play late into May.

VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Joel Tinney  
Year: Junior  
Sport: Lacrosse  
Major: Political Science  
Hometown: Innerkip, Ontario  
High School: Culver Academy

After slow start, Hopkins lacrosse dominates

By GREGORY MELICK  
Staff Writer

The Hopkins lacrosse team had a very quick turnaround between their first game against Navy and their second contest against the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) Retrievers.

With only two days to prepare, it was no surprise that the Blue Jays got off to a slow start, but they bounced back very quickly for a decisive victory.

In the first quarter the Retrievers controlled the pace of the game, holding Hopkins to just two goals while picking apart the Jays' defense to score two goals of their own. The game started off quickly with both teams scoring a goal within the first two and a half minutes. After that, it slowed down, with the defenses taking over for most of the remainder of the quarter.

With five minutes left in the quarter Hopkins took advantage of a penalty by UMBC to score their second goal of the quarter, courtesy of senior attack Wilkins Dismuke.

The lead did not hold for long, however, as the Retrievers took advantage of two failed clear attempts by the Blue Jays defense to score an equalizing goal with 1:43 remaining in the first quarter.

The second quarter is where the game was decided, as the Blue Jays took control of the game and outscored the Retrievers 7-0. It started with a goal by senior midfielder John Crawley, which opened the floodgates for the Jays, as they scored a total of four goals in the first five minutes of the second quarter.

They closed the quarter on a strong run as well, scoring three times in

the final four minutes of the half. The seven goals showed off Hopkins' depth and versatility, as they were all scored by different players.

While the offense stole the show during the second quarter, the Hopkins defense deserves credit for what the offense accomplished. The defense tightened up in the second quarter, recovering almost all free ground balls and succeeding on all of their clear attempts.

The momentum of the second quarter put the game away for the Blue Jays, and they eventually turned their 9-2 lead into a 15-5 victory. The win moved the Blue Jays to 2-0 on the season. In both of their victories, the game was close until a decisive quarter tipped the game in Hopkins' direction.

In the season opener

against the Navy Midshipmen, the game was tied 7-7 in the third quarter when a trick play goal ignited the Blue Jays to go on an 8-1 run the rest of the game. Hopkins managed to get that run earlier in the game against UMBC, but they would still like to get a complete game from the team.

After the game Saturday, head coach Dave Pietramala said that he was disappointed that his team had "another slow start."

If this Hopkins team can get off to faster starts, they will be a tough team to play, since their diverse offensive attack stretches defenses. In the game Saturday, 10 different Blue Jays scored, a stark contrast to last year's injury-plagued team that relied on the stick of star attacker Ryan Brown, who has

since graduated.

This year's team has scored 15 goals in each of its first two games, so if they can keep up the offense and stay healthy they will have a chance at both the Big 10 title and a deep playoff run.

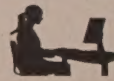
One of the biggest keys to sparking the Blue Jays offense is the defense, which has focused on forcing turnovers and getting clears in order to feed the offense.

After the game against UMBC, senior defender Nick Fields discussed the need to clear the ball in order to give the offense a chance: "At the end of the day," he said, "it's just about execution."

While Hopkins failed two clears in the first quarter against UMBC, they were successful on all other opportunities, going 14/16 on clears for the day.



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- Job #10413 - SAT Prep, Living Stone Ed. (summer), \$25-35/hr, 10-24hr
- Job #10410 - Data Entry for Vice Provost for Education, \$15/hr, 5-10hr
- Job #10208 - Fundraising, JHU Phonathon, \$10/hr, 9 - 20hrs.
- Job #10409 - Digital Comm. Assist. for Vice Provost Office, \$12/hr, 3-6hr
- Job #10385 - Social Media Assist, Physics, \$10/hr, 10-20hr
- Job #10393 - Academic Assist., Registrar Office, \$10-\$12/hr, 8-10hr

To see these and other jobs visit: [www.jhu.edu/stujob](http://www.jhu.edu/stujob) > Job Search

Important Annoucments:

W-2 forms are ready now! Don't waste time at the mailbox when you can print them online: <http://portal.johnshopkins.edu/w2/>

We have a new Student Employment Blogger who will hopefully begin blogging next week.

Check out next week's ad for more advice from Student Employment!



# SPORTS

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Hopkins men's and women's tennis teams were selected to repeat as Centennial Conference Champions in the preseason polls released earlier this week.

## CALENDAR

Saturday:

W. lax @ Marquette; Noon  
W. basketball @ Bryn Mawr; 1 p.m.  
M. lax vs. Loyola Md.; 1 p.m.  
M. basketball vs. Haverford; 4 p.m.  
Track @ Keough Invite

## Predictions for next year's NFC playoffs



Daniel Landy  
DanLand

The National Football Conference (NFC) has gotten the short end of the stick on football's biggest stage each of the past three seasons. The Seattle Seahawks failed to repeat as champions in Super Bowl XLIX, while the Carolina Panthers and Atlanta Falcons were both unable to hoist their franchise's first Vince Lombardi Trophies in Super Bowls 50 and 51, respectively.

The Conference has also experienced a lot of turnover: The Panthers and the Arizona Cardinals, the Conference's two highest seeds two seasons ago, failed to qualify for the playoffs this past season. Meanwhile, the Dallas Cowboys and the Falcons, who missed out on the playoffs two years ago, captured the two highest seeds this season.

The Green Bay Packers and the Seahawks have been the exceptions to the NFC's hierarchical volatility. The Packers and the Seahawks have reached the playoffs every year since 2008 and 2011, respectively. They are also the only two NFC teams to reach the playoffs in each of the past two seasons.

### The Conference has already experienced a lot of turnover.

Other teams, such as the New York Giants, Detroit Lions and Washington Redskins, have bounced in and out of contention from year to year but were unable to develop any sort of consistency in the long term.

Due to the uncertainty in the NFC, predicting the six teams that will reach the playoffs during any given season is essentially a crapshoot. Nevertheless, let's look ahead to the 2017 season.

To start, this season's Conference champions, the Atlanta Falcons faced a stunning, devastating and demoralizing loss in the Super Bowl. Following the greatest collapse in Super Bowl history, the Falcons will not only have to restore and strengthen themselves physically, but they will also need to overcome the mental pain that is inevitably tormenting each and every member of the organization.

The Falcons will also have to deal with the turnover that comes with being both a highly successful team and a team that suffered a catastrophic meltdown.

Former offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan is taking his offensive acumen to San Francisco, where he will serve as the 49ers' head coach. Former defensive coordinator, Richard Smith, will settle for a job in Los Angeles with the Rams.

The coordinators' replacements will need time to adjust to their new roles, an inescapable reality that could potentially pose challenges for the Falcons going forward. This, in combination with the general Super Bowl hangover from which teams commonly suffer, will serve as a detriment to the Falcons in the coming season.

However, they should still have enough to talent, led by MVP Matt Ryan and impressive wide receiver Julio Jones, to secure a playoff spot.

Beyond Atlanta in the south, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers have a chance to make some noise and possibly make the playoffs for the first time since 2007. The Buccaneers demonstrated significant improvement this past season, with their prized second-year quarterback Jameis Winston leading the way. Winston appeared much more comfortable in the offense this season in large part due to the sensational play of wide receiver Mike Evans.

The Winston-Evans tandem should continue to flourish going forward; However, if the Buccaneers are to make a legitimate playoff push, the offense needs to add additional weapons. This will be especially true if running back Doug Martin does not return to the team.

The Buccaneers are right on the cusp, but until they make several roster improvements, they should be expected to be on the outside looking in.

Elsewhere in the division, the New Orleans Saints and the Panthers are both talented teams with high ceilings and a lot of potential; However, they also each have major flaws that they must correct for next season.

The Saints, led by future Hall-of-Famer Drew Brees, are a force to be reckoned with offensively. Their defense is an absolute disgrace. The team must aim to rebuild the defense before 38-year-old Brees hangs up his cleats. Until New Orleans displays some semblance of a defense, do not expect to see them vying for a playoff spot.

Carolina needs to surround quarterback Cam Newton with more talent and protection on offense and find more playmakers on defense. However, with the Panthers' core still mostly intact from the its Super Bowl team, expect Carolina, who is much better than its 6-10 record

SEE NFC, PAGE B11

## Blue Jays tame Retrievers in home opener



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The Hopkins men's lacrosse team utilized a dominant second quarter run to easily best the UMBC Retrievers at Homewood Field this past weekend. The Jays outscored the Retrievers by 7-0 in the decisive period, ultimately coasting to a 15-5 victory. The seven goals scored during the run were impressively scored by seven different Blue Jays. The win moves the Jays to 2-0 on the season, as they aim for a Big Ten Championship and a deep NCAA tournament run.

B11

INSIDE

### The art behind "The Beautiful Game"

Andrew Johnson describes his experience at a Real Madrid game, explaining the majesty behind the goals which truly make soccer the world's most beautiful game.

PAGE B10

### Track dominates in Boston

The men's and women's track team travelled to Boston over the weekend, where they shattered numerous personal and Conference records.

PAGE B10

### AOTW: Joel Tinney

This week, *The News-Letter* honors junior Joel Tinney, whose spectacular hidden ball trick goal propelled him onto SportsCenter.

PAGE B11

INSIDE

## Forman shines at wrestling championships

By ESTHER HONG  
For The News-Letter

Senior team captain Jared Forman earned his second consecutive Centennial Conference title in the 174-pound match for the Blue Jays. With three key team members unable to participate in the tournament, Hopkins finished seventh overall in the Centennial Conference Championships, tallying a team total of 27 points.

"We were missing my co-captain Alex McLaughlin (who was runner up at the tournament last year) and sophomore Isaac Morales (who was third at the tournament last year). Sophomore Ricky Cavallo had to unfortunately injury default, and he was predicted to place high in the tournament as well," Forman said. "The rest of our line up will figure out how to win those close matches before the Regional Championship, and I expect to see a lot more guys on the podium with me come that time."

The Stevens Institute of Technology (SIT) earned the Conference team title with 95.5 points, with Ursinus College, Gettysburg College, Washington & Lee University and the Merchant Marine Academy claiming the next four spots in

the final rankings.

"Stevens did an excellent job of moving through the brackets to make sure there was never a break in the action," Forman said. "The Centennial Conference as a whole is continuing to get better, with many of the weights now including more than one nationally ranked wrestler. This speaks to the growth of D-III wrestling, and hopefully it continues to improve, and Hopkins will be an integral part of that process."

By defeating sophomore Ronnie Wuest from the McDaniel Green Terror by a score of 6-1, Forman became the top seed going into the semifinals.

"Most of my life, I've been the underdog at these kinds of tournaments, so it was a little nerve-racking to be the [first] seed and have everyone out to get me. But I just told myself to trust my coaches and trust in my training, and it turned out well for me," Forman said.

Forman matched with previously-faced and fifth-seeded Corey Markovitch of the Ursinus Bears for the semifinal match. Earlier this year, Markovitch scored nine points to Forman's two, defeating Forman for the regular-season victory.

Despite the prior loss, Forman started and finished the match strong, pinning Markovitch in a little under five minutes.

Advancing to the championship match for his weight class, Forman faced the Gettysburg Bullets' Dan Ebert.

Both Forman and Ebert kept the other from scoring for nearly the entire first period. Forman pulled ahead with a late single-leg takedown, earning him a 2-0 lead. Ebert responded quickly, escaping before the end of the period, making the score 2-1.

Ebert entered the second period with his newly-gained momentum, escaping yet again from a bottom position. Ebert tied the match at 2-2 at the end of the second period.

At the beginning of the third period, Forman recorded his own escape and followed with a double-leg takedown, earning another point for putting Ebert right to his back. Ebert tallied a couple of escapes but ultimately could not outscore Forman, who earned another takedown at the end of the period.

Forman took home the 9-4 Conference Championship victory, improving his overall season record to 23-12. Forman is now the sixth Hopkins wrestler to win two or more Centennial Conference titles.

"There are definitely a couple of things I [still] need to work on in order to achieve my ultimate

SEE WRESTLING, PAGE B10

## M. basketball falls to Garnet on the road

By BRANDON WOLFE  
For The News-Letter

This past Saturday, the Hopkins men's basketball traveled to face off against Centennial Conference rival and the 21st ranked Swarthmore College Garnet at the Swarthmore College Tarble Pavilion. Despite the Jays' strong start, the Garnet was able to pull away with a 70-48 victory, bettering their record to 19-4 on the season and 13-3 in Conference. Meanwhile, the Blue Jays fell to a still solid 11-5 in the Centennial.

At first, the contest was fiercely competitive, as both teams raced out to a strong start. The lead was swapped between both

teams six times within the first 17 minutes of play. The Garnet was able to capture the lead for good after the fifth tie of the game. At 22-22, Swarthmore would quickly score four points to capture the lead, which they would not relinquish.

The Blue Jays did manage to close the gap toward the end of the first half, making it a one-point game. But then the Garnet would go on a 13-3 run to take a 43-32 lead into the half.

Starting the second half with two quick field goals, Swarthmore extended its lead to 15 before junior forward Kyle Doran

SEE M. BASKETBALL, PAGE B10



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Jared Forman won his second straight Centennial Conference title.